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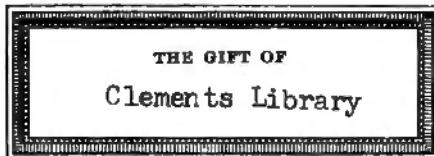
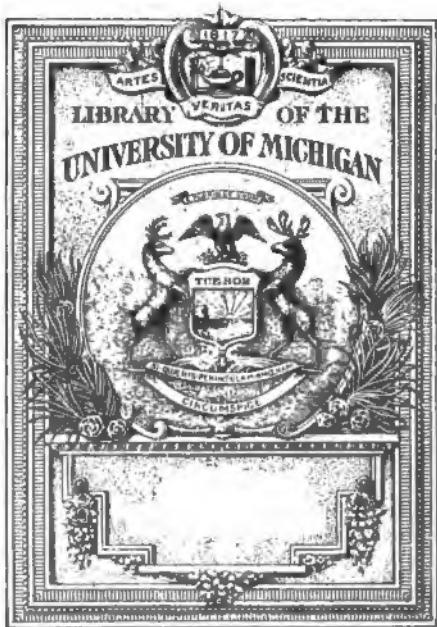
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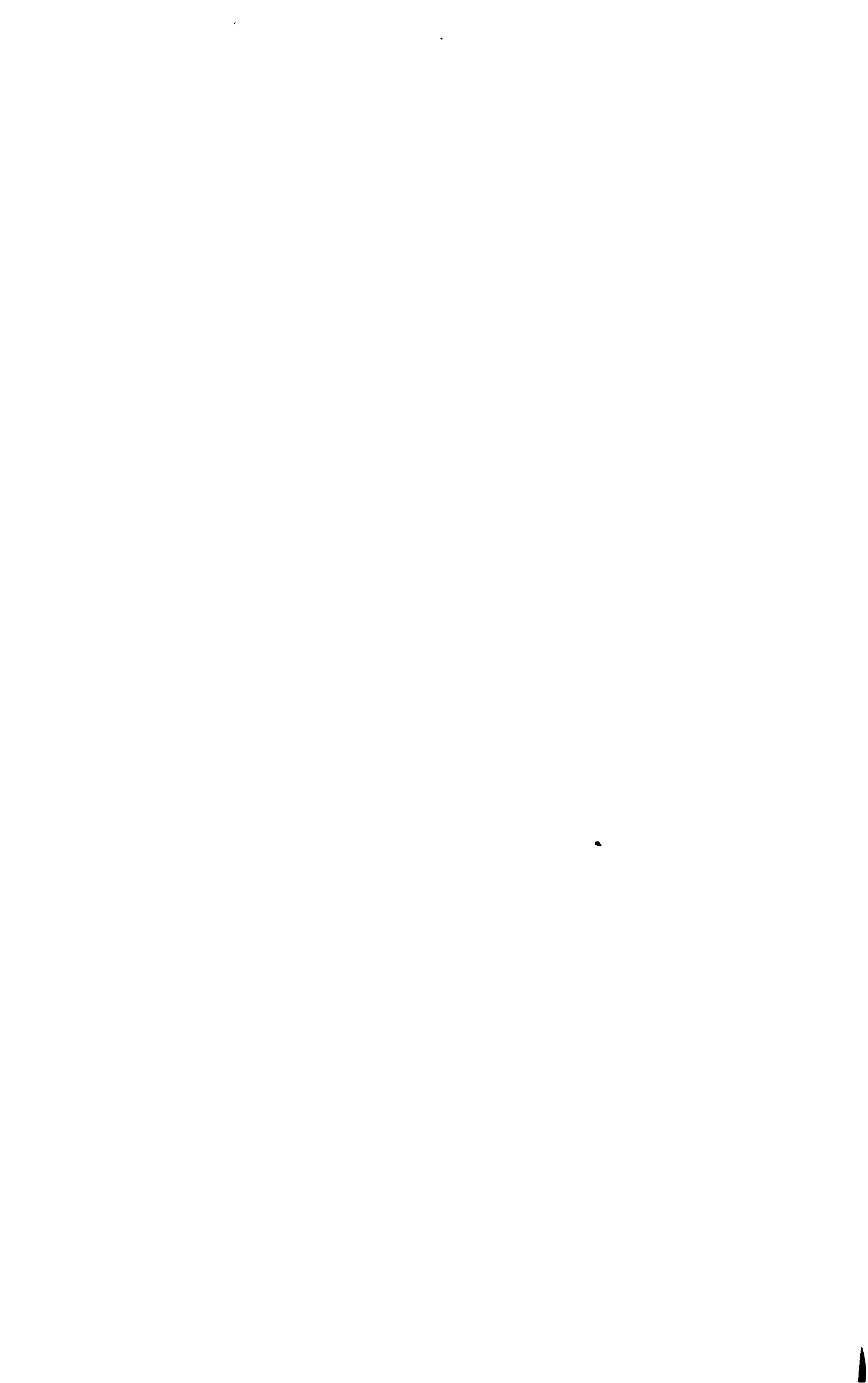
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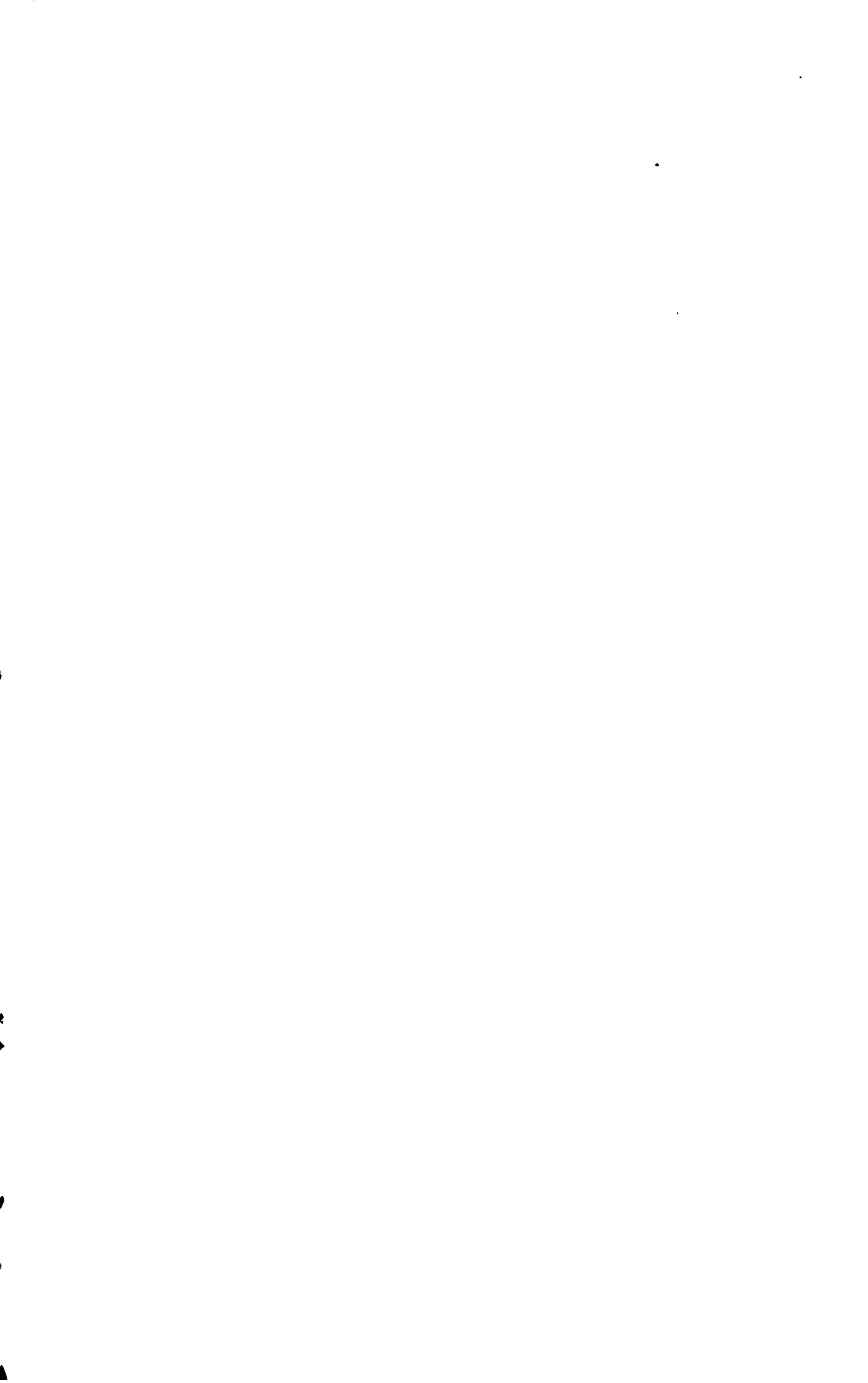


















JOHN HOOD GOULD.

THE  
HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS  
OF THE  
TOPSFIELD  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Volume 1.  
(SECOND EDITION.)

1895.

TOPSFIELD, MASS.,  
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.  
1895.



**JOHN HOOD GOULD.**

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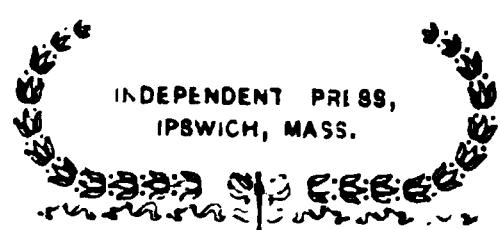
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# TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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## OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1895.

---

President,

JUSTIN ALLEN, M. D.

---

Vice-President,

CHARLES J. PEABODY.

---

Secretary,

GEO. FRS. DOW,

---

Treasurer,

GEO. FRS. DOW.

---

Curator,

GEO. FRS. DOW.

---

Executive Committee,

JUSTIN ALLEN, M. D., ex-officio.

CHARLES J. PEABODY, ex-officio.

GEO. FRS. DOW, ex-officio,

JOSEPH B. POOR,

WELLINGTON DONALDSON.

CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Adopted December 14, 1894.

---

**ARTICLE I.**

This organization shall be known as the TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

**ARTICLE II.**

Its object is the collection, preservation and study of all historical materials relating to the town of Topsfield; and it shall also be the purpose of the society to encourage the study of natural history in its various branches.

**ARTICLE III.**

The officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Curator, and an executive committee, five in number, of which the President, Vice-President and Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members.

All officers shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting.

**ARTICLE IV.**

The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings and record their proceedings, and at the annual meeting shall make report of the doings of the Society for the preceding year.

He shall also acknowledge the receipt of all donations and preserve a record of the same.

**ARTICLE V.**

The Executive Committee shall have general charge of the Society, and it shall be their duty to select suitable subjects for discussion at each meeting and arrange for the preparation of papers or addresses on the same.

**ARTICLE VI.**

All persons interested in the objects of this Society are eligible for membership.

**ARTICLE VII.**

Any person may be elected a member at a regular meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting, the name of such person having been proposed in writing by two members at a previous meeting.

**ARTICLE VIII.**

An annual fee of fifty cents shall be paid in advance by every member.

**ARTICLE IX.**

Regular meetings shall be held on the first Friday of every month, excepting June, July and August, and the meeting held in January shall be the annual meeting for the hearing of all reports and election of officers for the ensuing year.

**ARTICLE X.**

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a three-fourths vote of the members present, notice thereof having been given at a preceding meeting.

# LIST OF MEMBERSHIP.

JANUARY 3, 1896.

Adams, Lizzie A.  
Allen, Justin, M.D.  
Averill, Charles  
Balch, Benjamin J.  
Balch, Mrs. Caroline P.  
Balch, Franklin  
Barnard, Charles N.  
Bradstreet, Gertrude  
Bradstreet, Metta  
Bradstreet, Sarah R.  
Blaisdell, J. Albert  
Blaisdell, Mrs. Annie  
Chandler, James H.  
Chandler, Mrs. Carrie  
Clark, Marietta  
Conant, Albert A.  
Cummings, Julia, Boxford  
Dodge, Albert M.  
Dodge, Samuel P.  
Donaldson, Wellington  
Donaldson, Mrs. Lilian  
Dow, Geo. Frs.  
Dwinell, Esther  
Dwinell, Sarah  
Edwards, Benjamin P.  
Edwards, Mrs Eveline  
Edwards, Sarah S., Haverhill  
Field, Mrs. Emma J., Lynn  
Fiske, Amos T.  
Fuller, Daniel  
Fuller, Mrs. Francelia M.  
Fuller, Calvin W.  
Fuller, Mrs. Harriett  
Gleason, Annie, Haverhill  
Glover, Mrs. Gertrude, Ipswich  
Gould, Mrs. Abbie J.  
Gould, George L., Malden  
Gould, Mary E.  
Gould, W. Pitman  
Gould, Mrs. Mettie  
Haven, Mrs. Susan  
Hodges, Mary Osgood,  
Hood, Salmon D.  
Hutchings, Arthur W.  
Hutchings, Mrs. Emma  
Hutchings, Mrs. Esther W.  
Johnson, Arthur

Johnson, Mrs. Nettie  
Lake, Alice  
Lake, H. W.  
Lake, Otto E.  
Lamson, J. Arthur  
Lamson, Mrs. Hattie  
Leach, Charles H.  
Leach, Mrs. Mary A.  
Leach, Mrs. Louisa  
Long, Ira P.  
Nichols, Mrs. Mary L.  
Peabody, Charles J.  
Peabody, Mrs. Annie,  
Peabody, Bessie,  
Perkins, Clara E.  
Perkins, Harris E  
Perkins, Lyman A.  
Perley, Sidney, Salem  
Peterson, Mrs. Cynthia W.  
Pierce, E. Nelson  
Pike, Baxter P.  
Pike, Mrs. Sarah  
Poole, Rev. Francis A.  
Poor, Joseph B.  
Poor, Mrs. Mary  
Poor, Lizzie A.  
Porter, Hattie S.  
Potter, John H.  
Pray, Ruel B.  
Pray, Mrs. Caroline  
Putnam, Eben, Salem  
Rust, Forrest W.  
Sturgis, Mrs. Annie, Ipswich  
Todd, Ada  
Todd, Hattie  
Todd, Mehitable  
Towne, Mrs. Abbie W.  
Towne, John H.  
Towne, Rosa H.  
Towne, S. Josephine  
Trowbridge, Charles I.  
Trowbridge, Mrs. Fanny  
Webster, Albert  
Welch, Mrs. Ellen H.  
Welch, Leone P.  
Woodbury, Mrs. Sarah

## SECRETARY'S REPORT.

---

To present the first annual report of a Historical Society is an honor but few have had the opportunity of embracing, and in the present instance I particularly esteem it, because of the great and growing success of our Society, which from a humble beginning has gradually gained in membership and influence until it has become a factor in the life of a town.

My connection with the Society has been a source of much pleasure, and the custom of regularly holding our meetings in this house has in part, I think, added to their interest, the social feature naturally proving attractive, so that it gives me great pleasure to again extend to you an invitation to hold here the future meetings of our Society.

In reviewing the work accomplished during the past year, perhaps the two more prominent features are the printing of historical collections and the gathering of a nucleus for a cabinet collection of relics and curiosities. Of the latter the number of objects is as yet not large, but, as a small room in the Town Hall has been so kindly set aside for our use by the town authorities, it is hoped our funds may increase and during the coming year suitable cabinets may be obtained wherein our collection of historical relics may be properly displayed, safe from the curious handling of visitors. The expense will not be great and I would particularly call to your attention the needs of the Society in this respect with the hope that some means can be devised for increasing our revenue with this end in view.

About the first of February our volume of Historical Collections will be ready for distribution. It will consist of about one hundred pages of text, with several illustrations. The executive committee have thought it best to distribute one copy to each member gratis and hold the remainder of the edition at a fixed price, hoping to derive a small revenue from their sale. While many other Societies, historical and philosophical, follow the practice of holding their reports or collections at a certain price irrespective of membership, your executive committee have thought best to make this distribution hoping by so doing to bind more closely the membership tie and place in the hands of each associate, whether a resident of Topsfeld or living in some distant city, yet alike interested in our work, some tangible evidence of their affiliation with our Society.

There have been ten meetings of the Society held during the past year. Papers were read by the following members: Mrs. T. K. Leach, Mrs. Haven, Mrs. G. Warren Towne, Miss Metta Bradstreet, Miss Ada Todd, Miss Esther Dwinell, Miss Hatlie Todd, Miss Bessie Peabody, Justin Allen, M.D., Benj. J. Balch, John H. Towne, W. Donaldson, C. J. Peabody, J. H. Potter, A. M. Dodge and your secretary, and several of the papers so prepared have been printed in the collection.

Sidney Perley, Esq., of Salem, was present at the first meeting of the Society and spoke on organized historical work. At the March meeting Hon. Robert S. Runtoul of Salem was present and read an interesting paper on "The Era of the Stage Coach." June 19 a field meeting was held at the agricultural farm and notwithstanding severe showers a good number was present. Papers were read by Mrs. Abbie W. Towne, Benj. J. Balch,

Charles J. Peabody, and your secretary. Several points of historical interest were visited, the company finally reaching the house of George F. Averhill, who very hospitably threw open his doors and entertained the society royally.

On Sept. 20 a well attended public meeting was held at the Town hall when Ezra Hines, Esq., of Danvers, delivered an address on the "Meaning and Value of Historical Societies" and also described his search for the portraits of the Browne family, the builders of the Folly hill mansion in Danvers. Charles J. Peabody also read a biographical sketch on Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland. At the December meeting Rev. A. P. Putnam, president of the Danvers Historical Society, was present and delivered a lecture on "Our Historical Societies."

The donations to the cabinet number 22, and to the library 15. These will be properly acknowledged in the introductory pages of the historical collections.

John Hood Gould, an honorary member, died Feb. 11, 1895, and in his death the society meets with a great loss.

The membership at the present time is ninety-four and in this connection I would call your attention to the fact that every additional membership fee, small as it may seem, aids the society in its work and broadens the range of its usefulness. We need a larger membership. We should find inscribed on our rolls many interested in our work, though non-residents of Topsfield. The value of the historical collections might be held up as an inducement toward an increased membership, but in any case let each member propose one new name during the coming year and by so doing double our roll.

I would suggest that the office of curator be separated from that of secretary and an organized effort be made towards the accumulation of large additions to our cabinet collections. In many an old attic in town lie buried valuable relics of a by-gone day, and with the acquisition of closed cabinets each member should take particular pride in preserving for the society these various objects, and in time would result a collection that fittingly might represent the historic life of our town from the earliest times.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. FR. DOW,  
Secretary.

# TREASURER'S REPORT.

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>, 1895.**

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.	
Annual dues . . . .	\$43 00	Printing historical col. . . .	\$16 50
Geo. L. Gould, donation . . . .	2 00	Printing, typewriting, etc. . . .	5 40
		Postal cards . . . .	10 70
		Record books . . . .	1 50
		Warren Blues' equipments . . . .	7 00
		Rent Town hall . . . .	2 50
		Lecturer's expenses . . . .	1 10
	<hr/> \$45 00		<hr/> \$44 70
		Balance on hand . . . .	30

**Respectfully submitted,**

**GEO. FR. DOW, TREASURER.**

## Donations for the Year ending Jan. 3, 1896.

## CABINET.

**Cummings, Miss Julia A., Boxford—Arrow head.**

Dodge, Albert M.—Cabinet case and collection of birds' eggs numbering 116 varieties.

Dow, Eugene M.—Battered silver spoon found on Price's Hill, monogram  
B. B. H.

Dow, Geo. Frs.—Spinning wheel; piece of live oak keel of H. M. S. Somerset, wrecked on Cape Cod in 1779; two Indian arrow heads; stone implement used for sharpening Indian tools; badge Mass. Society Sons of American Revolution; badge, Essex Co. Rep. Convention, Salem, Aug. 24, 1887; badge, 25th National Encampment, G. A. R., Detroit, Mich., 1891; framed portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

Gould, John H.—Hair trunk, formerly the property of Jacob Towne; ivory headed cane formerly the property of Jacob Towne; green silk umbrella formerly the property of Jacob P. Towne.

Hutchings, Mrs. Esther W.—Feather plume worn by Jeremiah Stone, M. D., when surgeon of the Topsfield Warren Blues in 1836.

Johnson, Mrs. Arthur.—Brass barrelled pistol picked up on the battle-field of Stonington, Conn.

Kimball, Paul R.—Banner of the Topsfield Fremont and Dayton Club, 1856.

Pray, Ruel B.—Deck-light from U. S. S. S. Mendota; gavel turned from the oaken frame of the old Israel Gallup house; piece of core boring from the largest gun in the U. S. navy, from Washington Navy Yard, 1892.

Stevens, Albert W.—Pieces of clay pipes from a chimney foundation in an old cellar near Crooked Pond in Boxford; (see Perley's dwellings in Boxford, page 136); two ancient iron peat forks; piece of chestnut wood excavated from the pit of the Topsfield copper mine in 1840, having been buried at the working of the mine in 1771.

Webster, Albert—Indian stone axe.

Welch, Mrs. Ellen H.—Wooden tablet inscribed with the date 1759, formerly fastened to the front of the gallery in the old meeting-house.

#### LIBRARY.

Avery, Sidney W.—Account book and ledger of David Hobbs, 1774-94, 72 pages.

Chandler, James H.—Newspaper, extra number of Meriden, Conn., Republican, Aug. 20, 1881, containing account of life and death of James A. Garfield.

Davis, Andrew McF., Cambridge.—Historical work in Mass. pamph. 1893, 55 pages.

Edwards, Benj. P.—Three shares stock Eastern stage company.

Haven, Mrs. Theodore W.—Newspaper, Salem Gazette, March 28, 1800; certificate of stock in Topsfield Agricultural Library, March 24, 1860; newspaper, Columbian Centinel, Dec. 22, 1810; tax collector's warrant, 1773; receipt for Revolutionary service July 11, 1776, Andrew Gould.

Johnson, Mrs. Arthur.—Universal Geography by Rev. Elijah Parish, Newburyport, 1808. 214 pages.

Lake, Henry W.—Newspaper, Newburyport Herald, Nov. 17, 1834 containing account of political celebration in Topsfield.

Perley, Sidney, Salem.—Newspapers, Salem Gazette Sept. 30, 1774 and Oct. 7, 1774.

Poor, Joseph B.—History of the emblem of the codfish in the Hall of the House of Representatives, Boston, 1895. 82 pages.

Welch, Mrs. Ellen H.—Catalogues of Topsfield Academy for 1840, 1855, 1856.

GEO. FR. DOW, CURATOR.

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

AT THE FIRST

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, JAN. 4, 1895,

BY THE PRESIDENT, JUSTIN ALLEN, M. D.

It seems proper on an occasion like this, when a newly organized Historical society is about to enter upon its appropriate work, that it should glance over the field to be occupied and touch upon some of the points that will more particularly engage its attention.

The history of the town and of events having relations near or more remote to the town history will afford an ample field for our study and investigation.

We need not be content with commencing our studies with the first settlement of the town by Europeans. These hills and valleys were previously inhabited by other races than our own, who have left traces of their occupancy. A very few of the race who inhabited this region were found in eastern Massachusetts when the first European emigrants arrived. The previous generations that occupied this locality have left a meagre history in rude instruments used in their peaceful pursuits, in the chase, and in war.

There is a place in this town which from the many pre-historic relics found there is called the "wigwam." There is another place where have been found irregular pieces of flint and flint chips. The material was undoubtedly brought from a distance and manufactured into arrow-heads, spear-heads, and whatever other articles the needs and ingenuity of the residents might have devised. This is strong evidence that the aborigines had a permanent residence here. If such were the case it is probable that they buried their dead here also, and that their remains lie somewhere in the soil of our town. I am not aware that any Indian bones have been found within those limits. It may be reserved for a member of this society to unearth a long-concealed Indian burying-ground.

The town records afford the most reliable source for the civil history of the place, as an incorporated municipality. The oldest records are somewhat difficult to read, on account of their worn and to some extent illegible condition, as well as their ancient orthography and quaint chirography. The labor of deciphering and transcribing some of the more difficult portions of the records has been undertaken by one of our number, and we shall know more from the records of the town than it has been practicable heretofore.

With regard to ancient landmarks, the location of the residences of the early inhabitants, the boundaries of farms and early grants, and the elucidation of many obscure allusions in the town records, very much can be learned by a patient perusal of the Registry of Deeds.

Old deeds and papers that have withstood the waste of time and have

been preserved in many of the old families will often give a clew to the establishment of important facts. The same may be said of such topics as the history of old houses, old cellars, and the location of old roads. Contemporary with the town records is the ecclesiastical history of the town. Church records, memoranda kept by the ministers and others are important in throwing light upon all matters relating to the religious life of the people. They are also valuable in a genealogical point of view. Obscure points in family history may be cleared up which would otherwise remain doubtful or unknown.

Events of wider interest connected with the history of the state of New England and of the United States, having a bearing upon our town history, will furnish topics for investigation and discussion. The people of Topsfield from the earliest period of its history, whether acting as an incorporated body or each in his individual capacity, have borne an honorable part in whatever relations they have been called upon to act, and have an honorable record in civil, military, religious, educational and literary life.

Whatever is learned of the social life of our ancestors is of especial importance as throwing light upon their various characteristics. It is here that historical records are deficient. If we could have detailed accounts of their every-day life, their conversations, their daily intercourse with their neighbors and friends, the routine of their Sabbath observations, their social gatherings as far as they had any full records, of their church meetings, their town meetings, their domestic life, their habits upon their farms and in their houses, their meals, their religious observances, the government of their households, the education of their children, such minute accounts would be worth more than a whole volume of history as it is usually written.

It will be the aim of the society to encourage and promote the study of natural history. A scientific study of natural objects is not only desirable but highly useful. It has been too much neglected. Perhaps the neglect is largely due to the difficulty of making a beginning and getting a good start in the pursuit in question. When one has taken up the subject and has become interested, it is easy to keep on in one's investigation and add greatly to one's knowledge. Many who take up the study of the natural sciences become fascinated with them. In the department of zo-ology there is one branch, entomology, that ought to command our special attention. If more were known by the owners of our orchards of the habits of the canker worm, more might be done and more successfully to prevent the ravages of that pest of the apple trees.

The same might be said of other insects injurious to vegetation; as the apple-tree borer, the caterpillar, the currant worm, the squash bug, the corn worm, the Colorado beetle. *et id omne genus*

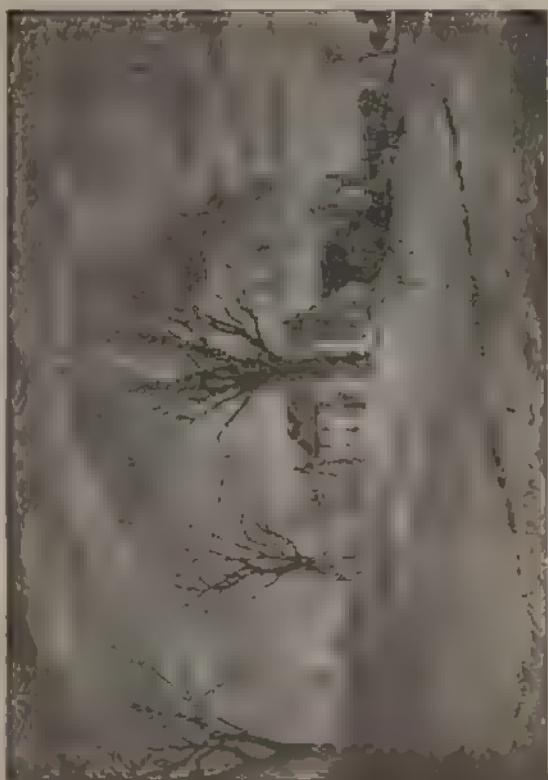
The care and management of domestic animals and their diseases is a subject that is uppermost in people's minds at the present time and well deserves their investigation and study.

Botany and mineralogy will also come in for a share of our attention.

Some of the members have given special attention to natural history and will no doubt favor the society with papers from time to time that will be interesting and instructive.

After all, the most important object of our work will be the study of the generations that have preceded us, to improve upon our ancestors, and profit thereby.





THE PRIMROSE'S HOME IN NORTH ANDOVER.  
PRINTED IN 1905.

# ANNE BRADSTREET.

## HER LIFE AND WORKS.

BY METTA BRADSTREET.

Anne Bradstreet, noted as the earliest female poet in America, was the daughter of Thomas Dudley and wife of Simon Bradstreet, two of the founders and early governors of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

The ancestry of that branch of the Dudley family to which Madam Bradstreet belonged is simply a matter of conjecture. Extensive researches have failed to prove the connection with John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, which several of the Dudley descendants claim.

Her father, Thomas Dudley, was born in Lincolnshire, Eng., in 1576 or 77 and was the only son of Captain Roger Dudley who fell in battle in 1586. Thomas was taken from school at an early age and became a page in the family of Lord Compton. After this he served as a lawyer's clerk, and then we find him at the head of a body of eighteen volunteers, part of a force collected by Elizabeth to aid the French king. From these various occupations he derived considerable legal skill, straightforwardness, honesty and courage. Under the preaching of the famous Puritan minister Dodd, he became a Nonconformist and ever after adhered strictly to the views which he adopted.

For several years Dudley was steward of the Earl of Lincoln's estate, then removed to Boston, Lincolnshire, where he became acquainted with Rev. John Cotton, his afterward companion in the New World. His wife, Dorothy, is spoken of in the record of their marriage as a "Gentlewoman whose Extract and Estate were Considerable." Anne was their second child, born in 1612, probably at Northampton. Of her early youth and bringing up we know but little. She was evidently religiously and strictly trained and from her works it is plain that she had read and studied with unusual diligence for one of her age and sex. At this time she had a strict field of study.

The quarter of a century preceding the departure of the Mass. Bay Company was one of the most glorious in the history of English literature. New books were appearing in unwonted numbers. Spenser, Sidney, Shakespeare and Cervantes had recently died leaving choice additions to the literature of the world.

In this period of literary activity Madam Bradstreet passed the first eighteen years of her life. With literary tastes her surroundings during this time were such as to create and satisfy a desire for poetical and historical studies. Of her mother, who died in 1648 at the age of 61, little is known, not even her maiden name. In an epitaph to her, her daughter says :

"A worthy matron of unspotted life,  
A loving mother, and obedient wife"—

and father on in the poem,

"A true instructor of her family  
The which she ordered with dexterity."

Her father, too, seems to have taken especial pains in instructing this daughter if we may judge from what she says of him.

"He was my father, guide, instructor too,  
And who more cause to boast his worth than I,  
Who heard, or saw, observed, or knew him better,  
And who alive, than I, a greater debtor.

At the age of sixteen she was married to Simon Bradstreet, the son of a Nonconformist minister of Lincolnshire. Bradstreet was born at Horbling, March, 1603. He was educated at the grammar school until he was fourteen, when his father's death made it necessary for him to leave. He was taken into the family of the Earl of Lincoln under the care of Dudley. He was at Emmanuel College one year, having had, as he himself wrote, "a very pleasant but unprofitable time in the society of the Earl of Lincoln's brother and other companions." Notwithstanding this he became a good scholar, taking his bachelor's degree in 1620 and his master's four years later. On Dudley's removal to Lincolnshire he became steward in his place managing the estate with equal skill, and at the time of his marriage he held the same position to the aged Countess of Warwick.

Religious and political affairs in England being in bad state and boding ill for the future, on June 26th, 1629, Dudley with eleven others signed an agreement whereby they pledged themselves to remove with their families to New England by the first of next March, provided the whole government, together with the patent, should be legally transferred before the last of September to remain with such plantation. Although Dudley had from 1627 been interested in the planting of a colony he evidently had no connection with the company till Oct. 15, 1629. On that day he and Winthrop were first present at a meeting. On Oct. 20, Dudley was chosen an assistant, and on Mar. 18, Bradstreet was elected to the same office. From that time they devoted their lives to the interests of the company, holding various high offices, and had at times committed to them the arrangement of business of vital consequence to the colony. On board the "Arbella," Mar. 23d, Dudley was chosen Deputy-Governor in place of Mr. John Humphrey, who was to stay behind in England.

On Monday, March 23d, the little band of Puritans set sail in their four small vessels, the "Arbella," "Talbot," "Ambrose," "Jewell." Most of the prominent people were on the "Arbella." Among them were Isaac Johnson and his wife, the delicate Lady Arbella; and here, too, was the governor, John Winthrop. With them, without doubt, were Mrs. Bradstreet, her father, mother and husband. "From April 6th till June 12th they did not again set foot on dry land and then it was to tread the soil of the New World." They had a long, cold, rainy voyage, the dreariness of which they tried to cheer by preaching, singing, fasts and thanksgiving. Small wonder, that the heart of our poetess thus called upon to leave her native country with its many attractions, and her pleasant home with its dear associations, rebelled for a while at the desolate, even dangerous prospect before her. On the seventy-second day of their voyage the homesick, sea-worn travellers came in sight of the rocky but welcome shores of Mt. Desert. "We had now, fair sunshine weather and so pleasant a sweet air as did much refresh us, and there came a smell off the shore like the smell of a garden," writes Winthrop.

They landed at Salem, then after exploring the Charles and Mystic Rivers they brought their goods to Charlestown and here made a settlement of fifteen hundred people. The colony here was broken up because of lack of running water, general sickness, etc., and they went for a while to Boston across the river. In December, 1630, they decided upon Cambridge (then called Newtown) as a good location for their colony. Here Dudley and Bradstreet both resided, the former's house standing at the corner of the present Dunster and South streets. Bradstreet's stood near the colleges, on the spot where the University Bookstore of Messrs. Sever and Francis on Harvard Square, now is. Here Madam Bradstreet's first poem was written in 1632, at the age of 19, "Upon a Fit of Sickness."

In 1635, Dudley and Bradstreet are found enrolled among the inhabitants of Ipswich. There they continued from 1635 till 1644. Mrs. Bradstreet mentions her residing there, but we have no particulars respecting her stay in that town. One of her long poems, "A Dialogue between Old England and New," was written there.

On the 4th of March, 1634 or '5, we have this record: "It is ordered that the land abouente Cochichowicke shall be reserved for an inland plantation," etc. This is the first mention of what was afterward the town of Andover. The early settlements were made in that part near Cochichowicke Brook, now known as North Andover. To this settlement come Simon Bradstreet and his wife sometime previous to 1634. Here Madam Bradstreet lived a busy, useful life, her time fully occupied by the cares of her family, attendance on religious meetings, and other duties incumbent upon her as the wife of a popular magistrate. Her husband, too, was often absent from home for long periods, intent upon the business of the colony, once even returning to England.

Those were times of great gloom and hardship to our poetess, as the letters written to her husband at those periods will show. The time which she spent in verse-making was curtailed from her sleep and other refreshments. The house which they occupied there was burned to the ground July 10, 1666. Many of her books and valuable manuscripts were thus destroyed among them the closing part of her poem, "The Four Monarchies," on which she had spent much time and labor. The accident was so discouraging that she had no heart to proceed further, and left the poem forever unfinished.

Not far from the site of the first meeting-house of Andover is a large, old-fashioned house, the oldest in the place. It has always been believed in the town that this was the Governor's house, built to take the place of that burned, and its size, solidity and position tend to strengthen the belief. If so Madam Bradstreet must have lived in it a few years, as she did not die till 1672, six years after the fire and then in Andover. The house was later known to be the residence of their son Dudley. It stands on the old Haverhill and Boston road, within a few feet of the way, and has a southerly aspect. It has two full stories in front but sloped to a single one in the rear. The doors are small and low. The frame of the house is very heavy with massive old timbers; an immense chimney runs up in the centre.

Mrs Bradstreet had eight children. First, Samuel, who was educated at Harvard College and practised as a physician in Boston for many years, died in the island of Jamaica where he had removed. Second, Dorothy, who married the Rev. Seaborn Cotton, eldest son of the Rev. John Cotton of Boston. Third, Sarah, who married Richard Hubbard at Ipswich, brother of the Rev. William Hubbard, the historian. After his death, she married Maj. Samuel Ward of Marblehead. Fourth, Simon, also educated at Harvard, and ordained pastor of the church at New London, Conn., in 1670. Fifth, Hannah, married Andrew Wiggin of Exeter, N. H. Sixth, Mercy, married Maj. Nathaniel Wade of Medford. Seventh, Dudley, who resided in Andover, holding several important offices in the town. During the witchcraft delusion he, as magistrate, granted thirty or forty warrants for the apprehension and imprisonment of the supposed witches, but refusing to grant more he fell himself a victim to the same charge and was obliged to secrete himself for a while. He died in 1702, having won the love and confidence of his fellow townsmen. Eighth, John, born in Andover 1652 and resided in Topsfield on Governor Bradstreet's grant of land in the eastern part of the town. He married Sarah, daughter of Rev. William Perkins of this town. They had five children. He died in Topsfield, Jan. 11, 1718.

All but one daughter, Dorothy, were living at the time of Madam Bradstreet's death in 1672, at the age of sixty. Her burial-place is unknown. No stone bearing her name can be found in the old burying ground at Andover. It is probable that her remains were deposited in her father's tomb in Roxbury. It is also unfortunate that there is no portrait of her in existence. Four years after her death, her husband married again, this time to the widow of Capt. Joseph Gardner of Salem, and daughter of Emmanuel Downing.

Anne Bradstreet's descendants have been numerous and many have

achieved fame in the world of letters. Some of the most noted are, her grandson, Rev. Simon Bradstreet, who though eccentric, was one of the most learned men of his day. Dr. William Ellery Channing, the celebrated divine. Rev. Joseph Buckminster of Portsmouth and his son. Richard H. Dana, the poet, and the Hon. Richard H. Dana Jr., eminent as a man of letters and lawyer. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, poet and humorist. Mr. Wendell Phillips, the orator.

Mrs. Bradstreet's poems show that she has been a faithful student of history, an assiduous reader and a keen observer of nature and of what was taking place both at home and abroad. Her familiarity with the Bible is apparent all through her writings. Du Bartas, a French poet whose works were regarded with much favor by the Puritans, was her favorite author. The general idea of her longer poems must have been suggested by a study of his works. Sir Phillip Sidney, writer, poet, and soldier, was another favorite, as her eulogy on him will show.

Although Madam Bradstreet's works may be greatly inferior to what women since her day have accomplished, up to that time no poet of her sex in Europe had written anything of equal literary merit. She was a loving wife and a tender mother. Her children were constantly on her mind. Prompted by her love for them she wrote out her religious experiences in a little book, in which she also kept a record of sickness, religion, etc. The book is thus dedicated:

"To my dear children:—

This book by any yet unread,  
I leave for you when I am dead;  
That being gone here you may find  
What was your living mother's mind.  
Make use of what I leave in love,  
And God shall bless you from above."

From some of her poems it appears that she must have loved to wander in the woods and fields and have found there the companionship which she missed elsewhere. Her constant studying and writing had evidently exposed her to the criticism of her neighbors. The fact of a woman's being able to compose anything of any merit was then regarded with the greatest surprise and disdain. Despite the danger from wild beasts which inhabited the woods, and the Indians whose assaults were a constant dread, she continued to visit field and forest, meditating on their winning charms and grand and silent beauty: and to ramble along the banks of her loved Merrimac, where many of her poems were composed. The graceful beauty of one of these, her "Contemplations" leads us to wish that she had spent less time over her histories and sought more often the fair face of nature. This one poem proves her more truly a poet than the many others which she wrote. All the poems in the first edition of her works were written before she was thirty, though they were not published until 1650 and then without her consent or knowledge. The later editions contain several poems found among her papers at her death and which seem not intended for publication. Having had from birth a very delicate constitution and through life many sicknesses, fevers, etc., she bore all with meekness and resignation. In spite of her feeble health she continued to write till near the date of her death.

In 1647, Rev. John Woodbridge, her sister Mercy's husband, sailed for England, taking with him the manuscript poems of our author. These he had published in London in 1650 under the title of "The Tenth Muse Lately sprung up in America. Or Several Poems compiled with great variety of Wit and Learning,— By a Gentlewoman in those parts." They were introduced to the reader in a short preface in which the author is described as "a Woman, honored and esteemed where she lives, for her gracious demeanor, her eminent parts, her pious conversation, her courteous disposition, her exact diligence in her place, and discreet managing of her family." He also adds: "I feare the displeasure of no person in the publishing of these Poems but the Author's, without whose knowledge and contrary to her expectations I have presum'd to bring to publick view

what she had resolved should never in such manner see the Sun." The poems were most extravagantly praised on their appearance by Rev. N. Ward, Cotton Mather, Rev. Benj. Woodbridge, President Rogers of Harvard University, and others.

On the merits of her productions I will say but little, leaving the listener as judge for himself. One can hardly expect that after "twice drinking the nectar of her lines" you will "welter in delight" like her enthusiastic critic, Pres. Rogers. Even if they do not show much poetic genius, they are certainly remarkable when we consider the time, place and circumstances under which they were written. She must have been a brave singer who could find heart for song amid the danger and hardships incident upon life in the New World at that time. Her poems are quaint and curious. They contain beautiful and original thoughts, some of which are not badly expressed and they form an odd and valuable relict of the earliest literature of our country. The listener must bear in mind that no congenial and gifted minds were near to cheer or inspire her, no circle of brilliant wits to sharpen and brighten her intellect. She had no beautiful environments, no famous works of art to elevate or direct her taste, but the country was a barren wilderness, destitute of all poetical associations. Life was then a series of hard, obstinate facts, and the people among whom our songstress was called to dwell were the last in the world to encourage or appreciate a poet.

## The Burning of Rea Tavern, Topsfield, October, 1836.

A paper prepared by Mrs. T. K. Leach and read before the Topsfield Historical Society, Friday Evening, April 6th, 1886.

In the year 1836, Mr. Leach and myself were married and came to Topsfield the second day of May. We moved into Mr. Fred Perley's new house, the one owned by Mr. Andrew Gould to-day. In the house lived four families; in the upper tenements lived the families of Nehemiah Balch and Joseph Lovett, and Dea. John Wright and our family occupied the lower floor. Mr. John Wright manufactured shoes and employed many men, some of whom he boarded in his own family. Of the many who lived in the house at that time, I know of but two besides myself who are alive to-day, Mr. David Adams of Lynn and Mr. Nehemiah Balch's son Charles of Lowell, who was a mere child three years old, at that time. On the opposite side of the street from which we lived, stood the Rea Tavern, which was a large two-story square house, a barn or stable owned by Mr. John Rea, and a two-story building, which was occupied by the firm of Herrick & Perkins (Charles Herrick and Atmos Perkins) in the manufacture of shoes.

At the time of which I write, we were all young and full of life, and the calls we made upon one another were numerous and not very ceremonious. I often ran across the street to see Eliza Bradstreet, the housekeeper of Mr. John Rea, and Betsey Gould, the maid servant, who afterwards became Mrs. Samuel Adams. As Mr. Rea was a widower and Eliza his housekeeper, we often joked with Eliza at the prospect of her becoming Mrs. Rea, which Eliza would promptly resent. Betsey was not slow, and with what aid I could give her, we made the tavern ring with laughter and mirth.

Now, about the fire which consumed the tavern, stable and shoe factory, in the fall of the year 1836. I was awakened one Monday morning in October, about one o'clock, by a noise; arousing my husband, who sprang up and looking out of the window, said, "We are all afire." I asked him if I had time to dress, and he said, "It's Rea's house," and gave the alarm in the house, which was alife instantly. I went to the front room and looked out, and the flames were just bursting out of the Northwest end of the tavern, and no one was astir but the hostler, Joseph Hastings, who was in the act of leading out one of the horses. Mr. Rea had two, both of which were led out, but one rushed back and perished.

Mr. Hastings slept in the attic of the tavern next to the barn, and being suddenly awakened sprang from his bed and rushed downstairs and in his descent his first impulse was to awaken the inmates. Opening the door of a side room occupied by Mr. Rea's brother's family to give the alarm, he was surprised to see Mr. Rea dressed in his Sunday clothes, with that huge black breast pin on, of which so much was said in the trial which followed, a dress which people remarked about as hardly fitting in which to fight a fire. Mrs. Rea was dressed in a flannel nightgown, a garment which her husband, who said he could not tell what would happen before morning, had advised her to wear. This was testified to by Mrs. Charles H. Holmes in the court, being so informed by Mrs. Rea. Mr. Rea had packed his trunk, which he took up to Mr. Moses Wildes' house, and threw into the window by the end door. Mr. Hastings then opened the door to Eliza's room; she was fast asleep with Mr. Rea's little son.

In no time the whole village was aroused, and a man was despatched on horseback to Salem for an engine and ladders, which came with all due speed. The engine was attached to the town well, (the one in use to-day), and strange to say, never sucked air but once. Rev. McEwen stood guard over the well, that no water should be wasted. Mr. Samuel Gould's two wells and Capt. Munday's one supplied all the water used at the fire.

The house in which we lived was in constant peril, and the manner in which we saved it was by carrying tubs of water to the attic and taking the clothes stripped from the bed, putting them into the tubs, and laying them thoroughly saturated with water on the roof and keeping them so until the engine arrived from Salem.

Mr. Perley's other house (now Mr. J. B. Poor's) was used by Mr. Perley's brother Nat and himself as a variety store; it was filled with goods, and in his anxiety to save it, Nat, who went to the roof for that purpose, slipped and fell to the L, injuring him seriously.

Mr. Benjamin Kimball had nearly finished his house, and with shavings and boards laying around the ground it seemed almost sure of destruction, but timely arrival of engine and ladders, which brought a large number of canvass sales, saved that and other buildings.

When I came from the attic after assisting in wetting the blankets, I met Mr. Perley at the foot of the stairs; he said that we must clear the house as it was sure to go, we could not save it. I commenced to pack; I took a very large band-box, (large enough to hold a dozen bonnets like those worn now-a-days), and put into it my dinner-set, comprising two dozen cups and saucers, milk pitcher, sugar bowl, two dozen plates, glass cup-plates, and preserve dishes, that filled the box. This I did in my parlor, and then took them to the outer door. Then somebody said, "Here, Mrs. Leach, let me take the basket." Of this I was thankful, it was so heavy. The man carried it to Mr. Benjamin Kimball's land, and just as he was in the act of setting it down, out came the bottom of the box. I was fortunate in this accident, as but two glass dishes were broken, a fact which I discovered when I went to get them after the danger from the fire had passed. I was thoroughly surprised, however, to find that I could not lift the box, try as hard as I could, when I attempted to take it into the house. We got it back at last, and as they were bringing it in, a terrible crash came. I thought my dishes had gone at last, but it happened to be the ladder that went through the window as they were taking them from the house.

Many amusing things occurred while we were preparing to leave the house. I wanted to save my milk pitcher, so turned the milk which it contained on the floor. Mrs. Balch, in saving her linen, tied it up in a sheet, and her camphor-bottle she emptied into the sink; the odor of camphor was present with us long after the fire. I looked for my wedding dress, which was a lavender silk, and found it in the wood basket, and a rug tucked into a bureau drawer.

So after the fire, as in all country towns, things quieted down and we thought but little about it till the next Sunday morning, when my hus-

hand came in and said, "Two men were hung last night on the sign-post." I had another scare, but he laughed and added, "only in effigy." I went to the front window and sure enough there hung what appeared to be two men; one had a breast pin made of leather, which was conspicuous by its immensity. Our good man Samuel Hood, learning of this, and as it was our good old New England Sabbath when all were expected to go to church hurried to the scene ladder in hand, and soon brought them to the ground, and laid them away. Other eyes saw this, and when the opportunity came, as it did after the people were in church, brought out the deposited effigies, and laid them across the wall that fronted the burnt district.

Of course the fire was the one theme talked about for a long time, and it leaked out that Rea found a letter threatening him if he continued his visits to see Ann Sawyer, that his buildings would be burnt over his head. He said that he picked the letter up on returning from one of his visits to the lady, and that he also knew who wrote it. People remarked very generally that it was high time such folks were brought to justice, and if he or his brother Samuel knew who it was that did such a thing, he should be brought out in a trial. It became so uncomfortable for those immediately interested that a warrant was sworn out, and Eliza Bradstreet was arrested by Sheriff Sprague of Salem on a charge of arson. Parson Mc Ewen tendered to the Sheriff his house, (now owned by Mrs. Ephraim Peabody), while he had Eliza in charge, which was accepted by them. They remained there during the whole trial.

The court assembled in the upper part of the Academy building, and lasted eleven days. J. W. Proctor, Esq., of South Danvers, presided. Asa-hel Huntington of Salem was counsel for the government and Leverett Saltonstall, Esq., of Salem, appeared for Eliza. The attorneys King and Mack of Salem assisted in the trial, but in what capacity I am unable to write. There was little work done at home; every lady in the town attended court. I was there every day.

Mr. Huntington made the opening address, during which he held aloft the letter that John Rea said that he had found, and in a high and powerful voice, declared that he should prove the charge by it, she, Eliza, having gone over it with her pen after it was written, which was called "painting." Mr. Samuel Rea had the severest examination. I think he was on the stand four or five days, and that beautiful breastpin was often alluded to.

The trial waxed warm and bitter, lasting, as I have written, eleven days, days that, as the sun went down, grew darker and darker for Eliza, but confidence in his client, and satisfaction in the result that he would prove to the world that Eliza Bradstreet was innocent of the charge of arson,—a charge actuated by selfish and unkind motives—spurred on Saltonstall. The thunder clap came when his brother took the stand, and in answer to the question, "Did your sister ever write to you?" replied with an emphatic "No." "Did she ever give any reason," continued Saltonstall, to which he replied, "Yes." "Dear brother, my will is good enough, but I cannot write." Others testified to this fact, which appeared to be the deciding point in the trial.

When the trial was ended, the court adjourned to the church for the closing pleas. Two days elapsed before we got the verdict, but on the morning of the 4th of March, 1837, Eliza Bradstreet was acquitted of the charge of arson. The verdict was, "Could not sustain the charge."

The bells pealed forth the joyful news. It was the day that President Van Buren was inaugurated, and the people out of town thought Topsfield was getting unusually patriotic.

In closing this paper I will say that this is written from memory, and not from notes. I do not think that I have misquoted anyone, or mistated any of the facts. Of the principals in this famous trial, a trial which was never recorded save by Him who knoweth all things that are done in this earth,—I will say that Mr. John Rea married Ann Sawyer, and moved to the British Provinces, and Eliza Bradstreet became Mrs. Silas Cochrane.

# Topsfield Minute Men at the Battle of Lexington.

"At a Meeting of the Alarm List and Training Band of the Foot company, in Topsfield, on the 5th of December, 1774, to choose officers for the said Company, (agreeable to the advice of the Provincial Congress), voted, Mr. Stephen Perkins, chairman; voted, Mr. Joseph Gould, Captain.

The Day being Spent, a Motion was made for said Meeting to be adjourned to the next Morning, 9 o'clock; the Question was put and passed in the Affirmative and accordingly said Meeting was adjourned to said Time.

December 6. Said Alarm List and Training Band met according to adjournment, a Motion was made said Company to be divided into two distinct Companies; the Question was put and accordingly they were divided into two Companies: the first Company voted Mr. Joseph Gould, Captain; Mr. Samuel Cummings, Lieutenant; Mr. Thomas Moore, Ensign; and all the other Officers by a great Majority. The second Company voted Mr. Stephen Perkins, Captain; Mr. Samuel Dodge, Lieutenant; Mr. David Perkins, Ensign; and all the other Officers by a great Majority."

Essex Gazette, Dec. 27, 1774.

The following Muster Rolls were copied from the State Archives by Geo. Frs. Dow, and the dates of birth and death were inserted by the late John Hood Gould.

## North Ward Company.

A roll of the Company which marched from Topsfield under the Command of Capt. Stephen Perkins in consequence of the alarm on ye 19th April, 1775.

	BORN.	DIED.		BORN.	DIED.
Capt. Stephn Perkins	1726	1790	Jon'a Hobbs	1754	1833
Lt. Solo. Dodge	—	—	Benja Hood	1748	1801
2d Lt. David Perkins	1725	1803	Ivery Hovey	1756	1816
Ser. Sam'l Bradstreet	1729	1777	Richard Hood	1751	1824
" Jacob Kimball	1734	1810	John Lamson	1756	—
" Nath'l Doriman	1740	1776	Amos Low	1752	—
" Thos. Cummings	1741	1806	Aaron Kneeland	1754 d. Me.	
Corp'l Benj. Hobbs	1749	1833	Thomas Perkins	1725	1801
" Ezra Perkins	1753	1824	Saml. Perkins	1730	1810
" Josiah Lamson	1751	1836	Rob't Perkins	1728	1801
Nath'l Averell	1747	1811	Oliver Perkins	1744	1825
Isaac Averell	1740	1816	Jacob Peabody	—	—
Amos Averell	1747	1805	Steph'n Perkins	1745	1796
Dan'l Boardman	1752	1803	Zeb'n Perkins	1740	1810
John Batchelor	1743	1819	Joseph Perkins	1738	1805
Israel Clarke	1732	1790	Elisha Perkins	1745	—
Josiah Cummings	1756	—	Jos. Symonds	1749	—
Ephraim Doriman	1741	1818	Jacob Symonds	1749	1801
Stephen Foster	1741	1791	Dan'l Towne	1736	1808
Win. Gallop	1750	—	Jacob Towne	1728	1807
Hez'h Hodgskins	d. New Ipswich, N. H.		Moses Wildes	1740	1810
Nath'l Hammon	1757	1842	Eph'm Wildes	1744	1812
Isaae Hobbs	1743	1830	Jno. LeFavour	1748	1834
David Hobbs	1752	1830			

The company marched 60 miles and saw 2½ days service. Capt. Perkins received £1 2½, while the privates of the company received 10s-8.

**South Ward Company.**

A muster Roll of Capt. Joseph Gould; Company of the Militia whereof John Baker Esq. is Coll. who marched on the 19th day of April last past in consequence of the Alarm made on that Day by the English Troops.

Topsfield, December 26, 1775.

	BORN.	DIED.		BORN.	DIED.
Capt. Joseph Gould -	1715	1803	Wm Eatsey	1748	—
Lieut. Sam'l Cummings	1732	1796	Nathaniel Fisk	1741	1815
Ens. Thos. Mower	—	—	Samuel Fisk	1747	—
Sergt. Nehemiah Herrick	1637	d. Vt.	Simon Gould	1755	1831
" John Peabody	1730	1802	Thomas Gould	1732	1778
" David Towne, jr.	1744	1815	Zacheus Gould	—	—
" Thomas Porter	1751	—	John Gould, Jr.	1749	1820
Corp. Cornelius Balch	1740	1795	John Gould, 3d	1746	1819
" Ebenezer Knight	—	—	Nath'l Gould	1753	1842
" Benj. Gould	1751	1841	Daniel Gould	1763	1842
Drvn Elijah Perkins	1756	1841	John Gould	1744	1816
David Balch, Jr.	1758	1812	Enos Knight	—	—
Robert Balch	1745	—	Benj. Kumball	1751	—
David Balch, 3d.	1741	died	Eliezer Lake, Jr.	1724	1796
Roger Balch	1765	1842	Eliezer Lake	1741	—
Israel Balch	1756	1778	Daniel Porter	1755	1806
Samuel Balch	1744	—	Moses Perkins, jr.	1756	—
David Balch	1714	1787	Thomas Perkins, 3d	1758d. N.H.	—
Daniel Bigabe, jr.	1751	1825	Moses Perkins	1732	1807
Dudley Bigabe	1750	—	William Ray	1765	1777
Benjamin Brown	—	—	John Ray, Jr.	1751	1821
Thomas Baker, jr.	1752	—	John Ray	1786	1797
Henry Bradstreet	1742	1818	Ephraim Towne, Jr.	1753	1804
Daniel Bigabe	1714	1775	Joseph Towne	1721	1789
John Cree	1720	1794	Joseph Towne, jr.	1749	1820
Samuel Cree	—	—	Arch. Towne	1752	1804
Joseph Cree	1753	—	Stephen Towne, jr.	1741	—
Bartholo'w Dwinel	1728	1801	David Towne	1715	1778
John Dwinel	1745	1818	Jeremiah Towne, jr.	1743	—
Daniel Eatsey	1739	1830	Wm Towne	1751	—
			Joshua Towne	1721	1788

The company marched 60 miles and saw a service of 3 to 5 days. Capt. Gould was paid £1-6-5, while the privates received about 12s. 1½d. as an average.

# William Towne, his Daughters, and the Witchcraft Delusions.

BY MRS. ABBIE W. TOWNE.

The name of Towne is not one of frequent occurrence in England; the first mention of it is in A. D. 1227. The next we hear of the name is one hundred and thirty years later, in the reign of Henry IV., when upon the windows of the church in Kennington, Kent Co., unpaled with that of Ellis of the same place, were the arms of a family by this name being, *argent, on a chevron, sable, three cross crosslets, ermine.* The next reference to the name known to the writer, is in the county of Lincoln where it has existed for more than four hundred years.

Richard Towne of Braceby in the county of Lincoln, married Ann,—they had ten children; one of these children, William, was baptized May 31, 1603, and is supposed to be our Anglo-American progenitor. Ann Towne's will was proved May 10, 1630. William B. Towne of Brookline, Mass., has a copy of this will. That our William was the son of Richard and Ann is probable, but there is no absolute proof, and before we go on to the facts that we can prove, I wish to speak of another William Towne who came to America. He was living at Cambridge, Mass., in 1635, was made a freeman or voter in 1637, and was quite a prominent man in the infant colony. He married Martha—and died in 1686, leaving two children, Peter and Mary. Peter was married but left no son and thus ended the family name in Cambridge. I have spoken of this William because I do not think it generally known that there were two; this has caused much confusion in times past.

William Towne of Salem, Mass., is the father of the Towne race in America. Mr. Cleveland says in his centennial address in 1850, "His descendants have settled in two-thirds of the states of the Union," and Mr. Hubbard says in his Towne genealogy, "There are few families deriving their name from a single pair that can show a larger number of descendant than William and Joanna (Blessing) Towne. Counting only the descendants of the Towne daughters of the first and second generations, a list of more than ten thousand might be easily made out without coming down later than the earlier part of the nineteenth century."

William Towne and Joanna Blessing were married at St. Nichols church, Yarmouth, Norfolk Co., England, March 25, 1620. Their children were—Rebecca, baptized Feb. 21, 1621, married Francis Nurse of Salem Village; John, baptized Feb. 16, 1624, died before his father; Susanna, baptized Oct. 20, 1625, died before her father; Edmund, baptized June 28, 1628, married Mary Browning of Salem; Jacob, baptized March 11, 1632, married Catherine Symonds of Salem; Mary, baptized Aug. 24, 1634, married Isaac Esty of Topsfield; Sarah, baptized Sept. 3, 1648, married Edmund Bridges, and second, Peter Cloise; Joseph, baptized Sept. 3, 1648, married Phebe Perkins, daughter of Deacon Thos. Perkins.

The first we hear of this family in Salem, Essex Co., is in the book of early grants, where the following appears: "8 mo. 1640, granted to Wm. Towne a little neck of land right over against his house on the other side of the river." William Towne's residence was in that part of Salem known as Northfields. He remained at this place until 1651, when he purchased a tract of land in Topsfield of William Paine of Ipswich, containing "forty acres of ground or thereabouts, whereof six acres is by the seller, which Wm. Howard of Topsfield built, and about thirty-two acres joining up to the sayd six acres eastward of it, part of which is plow ground another part is meadow, another part is upland unplowed all lying together having the meadow and plow ground of the said William Howard towards the east, and the ground of Walter Ropes towards the north and

a certain river towards the south, also a little meadow of about two acres lying on the south side of the river." In 1652 he sold his property in Salem and purchased additional lands in Topsfield. In 1663 "in consideration of natural affection and the contemplated marriage of their son Joseph Towne to Phebe Perkins, daughter of Dea. Thomas Perkins, he and his wife conveyed to their son Joseph two-thirds of the home wherein they then did dwell with barn, out houses, yard, gardens, orchards, lying situate and being in Topsfield together with a parcel of land, etc., etc. All these conveyances being made with the desire that their son Joseph should have the first refusal of the remaining third when the same should be for sale. William Towne died about 1672; his widow seems to have survived him about ten years. The sons were prominent men; we find their names many times as appraisers of estates. In 1669 Edmond and Jacob laid out the road leading south from the bridge near their father's house. This road was to be one pole wide, and must be one of the oldest roads on the south side of the river.

It is hardly necessary for me to give any account of the witchcraft delusion, which swept over our quiet neighborhood two hundred years ago; all are familiar with that terrible story. Rebecca Nurse was the fourth victim. Upham says the only clue to the mystery that a person of Mrs. Nurse's character should be selected, was the prosperous condition of the Nurse family and the trouble about bounds. Nevins thinks her near relationship to the Townes of Topsfield, who were actively interested in settling the disputed bounds, had a bearing on the case. Two of her neighbors, Israel and Elizabeth Porter, were sent to acquaint her with the fact that she had been accused. They found her weak and suffering, but patient, and she blessed God that she had more of Him in her weakness than in her strength. When we told her she had been spoken of, she said, "Well, if it be so, the will of the Lord be done;" she sat awhile, being, as it were, amazed, and then she said, "Well, as to this thing, I am as innocent as a child unborn, but surely," she said, "What sin hath God found out in me unrepented of that he should lay such an affliction upon me in my age." It is said she bore her examination with steadfast dignity and heavenly patience. One cannot read the description of these trials with any particle of patience. The people were barbarous, the judges little better. They were supposed to be counsel for the prisoners, but instead were really against them, and badgered the victims unmercifully. Rebecca Nurse was pronounced innocent by the jury, but the audience made such a clamor that the judge sent them out again and practically charged them to find her guilty, and they did so. It is related also by Upham that a woman in the audience threw her muff at Mrs. Nurse and as this did not hit her she took off her shoe and threw it with such good aim that it hit the poor old lady on the head, making quite a severe cut. When we think that this woman was seventy-one years old, and in ill health, that she had been loved and respected to an unusual degree, and then picture her standing before the grave judges of the colony, a target for the mob, on trial for her life, we wonder that her brothers, her sons and her husband had not rescued her by force. She was loaded with chains, taken to the church and excommunicated, and on July 19, 1692 hung on Gallows hill. The witches were not allowed Christian burial, but were taken from the gallows, huddled into shallow hollows among the rocks, and covered with a thin layer of earth. I have been told that on one occasion the hand of one of the victims protruded above the ground, as if the very earth itself refused them shelter.

According to tradition the sons of Rebecca Nurse stole their mother's body on the night following her execution, and carried it on their shoulders to their desolate home. Think what a journey it must have been for those men!

When Mr. Harris singled out Rebecca Nurse, and in his sermon called her a demon Sarah Cloyre, her sister, arose and left the church. This was a natural thing to do, but we of today can hardly realize the courage it

required. The next day she too was cried out upon, she was tried and condemned, but for some reason never executed, some think she confessed, but I do not; she was a brave woman, and a woman of the same family as Rebecca Nourse and Mary Esty, and I cannot think she could possibly say that she was a witch. She was confined at the Ipswich jail because there was no room at Salem and I am inclined to think that with so many victims near at hand she was forgotten.

Mary Esty (the self forgetful), was accused for no other reason than her sympathy for her sisters; she was 48 years of age and the mother of seven children. During her examination the magistrates said to her, "confess if you be guilty." She answered, "I will say it if for the last time. I am clear of this sin." This was on April 21. On May 18 she was released. Two days after the accusing girls were seized with terrible convulsions, and said it was Mary Esty who cursed them. Accordingly a second warrant was procured, she was taken May 21 and removed to Salem for trial. After midnight she was aroused from sleep by the marshall, torn from her husband and children, carried back to prison loaded with chains, and finally consigned to a dreadful and most cruel death. Her husband referring to the transaction nearly twenty years after said that it was a "hellish modestation." On the way to the gallows she was met by her family and friends, and of this meeting and parting Calef says. "that her words of farewell were said to have been as serious, religious, distinct, and affectionate as could well be expressed, drawing tears from the eyes of all present." While in jail awaiting execution Mary Esty petitioned the governor, judges and ministers, "Not for my own life, for I know I must die and my appointed time is set, but the Lord he knows it is that if it be possible, no more innocent blood may be shed, which undoubtedly can not be avoided in the way and course you now go in. By my own innocence I know you are in the wrong I would humbly beg of you that your honors would be pleased to examine these afflicted persons strictly, and keep them apart some time, and likewise to try some of these confessing witches, I being confident there are several of them have belied themselves, and others, as will appear, if not in this world, I am sure in the world to come, whither I am now going."

Upham closes his chapter on Mary Esty with these words: "The lofty tone of this message to the court recalls the perfect spirit of the prisoner on Calvary who entreated, "Father forgive them; they know not what they do."

## The Settlement of Topsfield.

GEO. F. S. DOW.

Every township located wherever it may be, whether in the old time settlements along the Atlantic coast or springing up on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada, should have and generally is possessed of a natural spirit of inquiry as to its first settlement and early growth.

Who was the first settler and where did he build his house? When was the town incorporated and who were the petitioners?

These and kindred questions naturally rise to the lips of the inquirer, and oftentimes arouse differences of opinion not eas'ly settled by the scanty records now existing. Tradition then comes to the assistance of the incomplete data, and almost without exception makes a bad matter worse so that who can wonder at the varying statements of historical fact met within the village or town that does not possess a printed history carefully prepared by an unbiased historian.

Topsfield is unfortunate in not possessing such a printed record of events, and the historical theories advanced from time to time by some ardent investigator can only be combatted after collecting widely scattered data bearing upon the facts in the case.

The following historical sketch has been prepared from the original data found in the proceedings of the Great and General Court, the records of the Ipswich and Salem Courts, and the valuable material on file at the Registry of Deeds.

The earliest settlements along the shores of Massachusetts Bay owe their existence to the unrelentless persecution of the Puritans in England at the investigation of Archbishop Laud. Small fishing and trading posts had found a lodgement along the coast some years before the coming of Endicott, but these consisted of but little else than a few rudely constructed huts for sheltering the lousome fishermen who cared for the fish flakes.

The arrival at Salem in 1624 of John Endicott with a small party of one hundred emigrants was in reality the laying of the foundation of the first permanent town in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

John Endicott was a prominent member of the Non-conformist company, styled "The Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay in New England," who had obtained from Charles I. a patent for that part of New England lying between three miles to the northward of Merrimac river and three miles to the southward of the Charles, and extending in breadth from the Atlantic to the South Sea. He who had been chosen by the Company "to govern" as Johnson says in his Wonder working Providence, was "a fit instrument to begin this wilderness work; of courage bold, undaunted, yet sociable and of a cheerful spirit, loving or austere, as occasion served."

The patent or charter granted to these early settlers gave undisputed title to the land, for the scourge of small pox had shortly before their arrival almost completely annihilated the native race of Indians, and the rights of the few who had survived the pestilence, were easily purchased, so that full and just title to all the land was held by the Massachusetts Bay Company who alone could sell or grant.

In 1629 the settlers began to arrive and during the next four years upwards of four thousand of them found homes in the infant colony.

In 1633, April 1st, the court of assistants ordered "that no person whatsoever shall go to plant or inhabit at Aggawam, without leave from the Court, except those that had already gone." The little party of adventurers was headed by John Winthrop, junr., and consisted of ten men. Two of them, Mr. William Perkins and Daniel Clark, afterwards settled in Topsfield, and two others, Mr. John Winthrop, junr. and Thomas Howlett received large grants of land in the town.

The town of Ipswich was incorporated in 1634 and grew rapidly in population and importance; it became the shire town of the county and sev-

eral of the Assistants and other prominent men in the Colony built their homes near the slowly flowing Agawam.

The surrounding country was explored and valuable meadows were discovered on following up the banks of the river to a point some seven miles inland. These to the new settler were particularly desirable since his cattle brought from the mother country, required hay for their sustenance, and the clearing of the almost unbroken forest was an undertaking requiring time and the assistance of many hands. Thus the New Meadows, as the locality was named, was much resorted to for the easily obtained meadow grass, and as the richness of the intvale land was seen, settlers began to obtain grants and build their rude dwellings.

The earliest comers probably located about 1639-1640 as the following extract from the Colony records seems to show:

"Whereas, at the Court houlden at Boston the 4th, 7th mo. 1639, there was certain land lying near Ip-wich River granted for a village, either to some of the inhabitants of Salem or some of the inhabitants of Ipswich who have farms near unto the said land, to be enjoyed by those who first settled a village there, they both propounding for it together; howsoever the order mentioneth only Salem inhabitants and for as much as the said inhabitants of Ipswich have for near this two years procured and maintained one to dispence the word of God unto them, which they intend to continue, it is therefore ordered and granted, that Mr. John Endecott and the said inhabitants of Ipswich, viz., Mr. Bradstreet, Mr. Symonds, Mr. Whittingham, Mr. William Paine, Mr. Robert Paine, and such other of Ipswich or Salem as they shall associate to themselves, shall have liberty to settle a village near the said river of Ipswich as it may be most convenient for them, to which the foresaid land shall belong, viz., all that which lieth near said river (not formerly granted to any town or person), provided that any of the inhabitants of Salem, who have farms near unto the said land now granted, shall have liberty for one year, next coming to joyne with the said village."—Mass. Colony Records, Oct. 17, 1639.

Of the above named persons it is quite certain that one of them Mr. Wm. Paine, resided in the new settlement, and he only at intervals, although Mr. Symonds for a part of the time may have lived on his farm known as "Olivers," which had its southern bounds on Pye Brook.

Of the settlers who were living at the New Meadows in 1645 we have the names of a few. Zaccheus Gould, Daniel Clark, the Redingtons, Abram and John; Alexander Knight who dispensed the Word; Mr. Wm. Paine, the gentlemanly merchant; Walter Roper, carpenter; Wm. Howard and Isaac Cummings can probably be included in the list. Others followed, and in 1648 the villagers, feeling impressed with their growth and importance, petitioned the Court to bestow a name on "the village" at New Meadows at Ipswich, which we suppose may be an encouragement to others to come and live amongst us; and also a means to further a ministry amongst us, we think that Hempstead will be a fit name if the Court please to gratify us herewith."

The petition was signed by Wm. Paine, Brian Pendleton and Zaccheus Gould. The town narrowly escaped being christened Hempstead as requested by the petitioners, for the deputies voted to grant the request; but when the court of magistrates came to consider the proposition, the action of the lower court was set aside and Toppesfield was substituted.

This action took place October 15, 1648, and was probably influenced by Samuel Symonds, a large land owner in the village and an important Assistant. He had lived in the village of Toppesfield in the mother country, and no doubt was pleased to perpetuate the familiar name on the other side of the broad Atlantic. In 1659 Zaccheus Gould and William Howard petitioned the Court to grant that Topsfield should henceforth be a town and have power within itself to order all civil affairs, and on Oct. the 18th of that year the request was granted and Topsfield began its separate corporate existence.

The settlement thus far without exception had been made on the north side of the river and by Ipswich people. No doubt the richer lands were sufficient inducement and the river Agawam itself served as a hindrance to the early occupation of the hills on its southerly side. In 1639 the Court had granted Mr. John Endecot 550 acres of land upon the Ipswich river on the north of Salem bounds. The Court did not lay out the grant until a number of years after, and then only at the repeated requests of Mr. Endecott at that time Governor of the Colony. Not until May 2, 1659 were

the bounds set, having "a brook against Goodman Gould's land on the east, Blind Hole on the south, and the wilderness elsewhere surrounding the said farm, taking into the bounds the swampy meadow land that lyeth on the south side of the river."

Evidences of the presence of copper ore were found on the hills in Blind Hole at the south of the river, and at the request of Gov. John Endecott the Court granted him Oct. 14, 1651, "three hundred acres of woodland tending to the furtherance of a copper work he intends to set up in a place called Blind Hole, neer to a farin formerly granted him, the said land not being formerly granted, provided he set up his said works within seven years."

The Governor engaged Richard Leader, who had been superintending the iron works at Lynn, to open his copper mine, but ill success followed the venture and copper mining in Topsfield was abandoned for the space of over one hundred years. In 1771 the Massachusetts Spy reported "that the copper-mine some time since opened in Topsfield at 12 or 15 feet depth, affords such samples of fine lively ore extended in spatterings all over the pit, that experienced miners have declared the appearances preferable to any yet discovered in America."

Tradition has it that a large quantity of ore was taken to Salem and loaded into ships and taken across the sea in order that it might be smelted on the other side. Unfortunately disaster intervened, and the ships were never heard from. Whether the magnetic currents from the north treacherously waved from ore to compass or chilly icebergs floated in the course of the ships, the sea alone can tell. So perished the copper industry in Topsfield.

About 1651 was built the bridge across the river now known as the "river bridge." Walter Roper and William Howard were the prime movers in the enterprise, both being land owners near by, and no doubt moved by the growth of the town and the greater need of pasturage and timber as well as to make it easier to reach Salem, Lynn and Boston. The bridge was probably a rude structure well in keeping with the blazed bridge path "leading to the south." In 1669 this path became a way one pole wide, hilly and but little traveled.

On the southerly side of Ipswich river Topsfield has about two thousand acres of land. At the time we are speaking of Gov. Endecott owned some five hundred acres, being Blind Hole and a portion of earlier grant; Simon Bradstreet, afterwards Governor, claimed about two hundred acres of rich meadow land in the more easterly part, while farmer Porter of Salem village claimed title to a portion reaching to the river. The villagers at Topsfield laid claim to the greater part of the remainder both upland and meadow, and in 1661 the selectmen, Ensign Howlett, Francis Pabodye and John Redington were ordered to lay out five hundred acres of upland to remain common to perpetuity and at the same time to divide the remainder of the common land both upland and meadow into three equal divisions. The matter of individual ownership of this common land lay in abeyance until 1669, when the town met together and cast lots "that every on thereby ma know whot is his share and where it lies."

The lots were divided into three sizes, "single, dobel and trebel" and were portioned out accordingly as the commoners had been rated in the ministers' rate for 1664, fifty shillings, twenty shillings, and under twenty shillings.

The list contains thirty names, all but three, Mr. Bradstreet, Mr. Endecott and Uselton the Salem merchant, being resident in Topsfield and living on the north side of the river, with one exception, William Nichols who had in 1652 bought of Henry Bartholomew "a farm lying between the bounds of Salem and Ipswich river."

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Mr. Perkins,	2-03-09	Thomas Perkins	2-19-07
Zacheus Gould	4-03-03	Thomas Browning	1-06-00
Mr. Baker	3-17-05	Jacob Towne	1-04-05
Thof. Dorman	3-03-00	Isaac Estey	19-06
Francis Pabody	4-05-02	William Towne	1-12-07
William Euens	2-11-00	Edmond Towne	1-08-09
Daniell Clark	1-04-05	Matthew Standly	15 08
Isaac Cummings senr.	13-08	Anthony Carell	11-01
Isaac Cummings, junr.	1-08-00	John How	19-00
Ensigne Howlett	1-08-09	Edmond Bredges	15-03
William Smith	13-08	William Nichols	1-12-09
Francis Bates	09-00	Vsseltons Lott	_____
Mr. Endicoat	1-02-02	Lumpkins feirme	_____
John Wiles	1-12-10	Robt. Andrews land	12-00

So grew the village and prospered and we to-day enjoy the full fruits of the foresight of our straight-backed and stern-eyed ancestors from over the sea.

### PETITION FROM IPSWICH FARMERS.

*To the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield in Town Meeting assembled,  
September ye 19, 1758.*

The Petition of us the Subscribers for our Selves and familyes Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioners have always Laboured under Greate Difficulties Respecting our attending the Publick Worship of God—ye nearest of us Living near four Miles from the Publick Meeting Houses to which we belong and in a corner of The Parrishes Inhabited So that by Reason of the Distance & Difficalty of Passing Especially in the Winter Season, it is frequently impracticable for us and families to attend the Public Worship att our own Meeting Houses (as no doubt Gentlemen you are Sensible) & so have been obliged either to Tarry at Home or attend with you att Topsfield, where, Altho we must have been Burthensome yet we are always Ready to acknowledge we have been Treated with much kindness & Respect, & also Respecting the Grammar or any other Public Town School for ye Instruction of our Children. Such is our Situation that we can have no advantage therefrom unless we Board out our Children, which Inconveniency, with some others not Menshoned, we Humbly conseive might be in a Greate Measure Remedied by our being with our Estates (agreeable to a plan herewith Exhibited) Sett off from ye Town of Ipswich & annexed to ye Town of Topsfield, we therefore Humbly Pray that you would Take our Case under your Consideration and Pass a Vote To Receive us our families and all ye Lands within ye plan aforesmehoned to be annexed to ye Town of Topsfield to be part and Percel thereof, to do Duty and Receive Privilege therein: Provided the Town of Ipswich agree thereto & the Greate and General Court Confirm ye same. & if ye Town of Ipswich Refuse to Sett vs off Join with us in Petitioning to ye Great and General Court to Sett us off to your Town, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray.

JOSEPH COMEINGS,  
JOHN LAMPSON, JUNR.,  
ISRAEL CLARKE,  
JABEZ ROSS,  
THOMAS CUMMINGS,  
JOSEPH CUMMINGS, JUNER.  
JOHN LAMPSON YE THIRD.



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Isaac Cummings senr.	13-08	Anthony Carell	11-01
Isaac Cummings, junr.	1-08-00	John How	19-00
Ensigne Howlett	1-08-09	Edinond Bredges	15-03
William Smith	13-08	William Nichols	1-12-09
Francis Bates	09-00	Vsseltons Lott	_____
Mr. Endicoat	1-02-02	Lumpkins feirine	_____
John Wiles	1-12-10	Robt. Andrews land	12-00

So grew the village and prospered and we to-day enjoy the full fruits of the foresight of our straight-backed and stern-eyed ancestors from over the sea.

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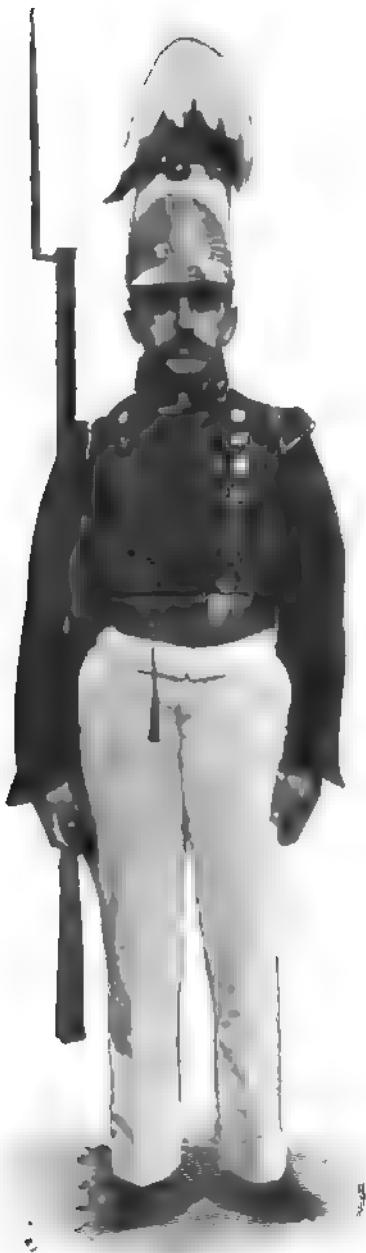
### PETITION FROM IPSWICH FARMERS.

*To the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield in Town Meeting assembled,  
September ye 19, 1758.*

The Petition of us the Subscribers for our Selves and familyes Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioners have always Laboured under Greate Difficulties Respecting our attending the Publick Worship of God—ye nearest of us Living near four Miles from the Publick Meeting Houses to which we belong and in a corner of The Parrishes Inhabited So that by Reason of the Distance & Difficaulty of Passing Especially in the Winter Season, it is frequently impracticable for us and families to attend the Public Worship att our own Meeting Houses (as no doubt Gentlemen you are Sensible) & so have been obliged either to Tarry at Home or attend with you att Topsfield, where, Altho we must have been Burthensome yet we are always Ready to acknowledge we have been Treated with much kindness & Respect, & also Respecting the Grammar or any other Public Town School for ye Instruction of our Children. Such is our Situation that we can have no advantage therefrom unless we Board out our Children, which Inconveniency, with some others not Menshoned, we Humbly conceive might be in a Greate Measure Remedied by our being with our Estates (agreeable to a plan herewith Exhibited) Sett off from ye Town of Ipswich & annexed to ye Town of Topsfield, we therefore Humbly Pray that you would Take our Case under your Consideration and Pass a Vote To Receive us our families and all ye Lands within ye plan aforesaid shoned to be annexed to ye Town of Topsfield to be part and Percel thereof, to do Duty and Receive Privilege therein: Provided the Town of Ipswich agree thereto & the Greate and General Court Confirm ye same, & if ye Town of Ipswich Refuse to Sett us off Join with us in Petitioning to ye Great and General Court to Sett us off to your Town, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray.

JOSEPH COMEINGS,  
JOHN LAMPSON, JUNR.,  
ISRAEL CLARKE,  
JABEZ ROSS,  
THOMAS CUMMINGS,  
JOSEPH CUMMINGS, JUNER.  
JOHN LAMPSON YE THIRD.





UNIFORM OF WARREN BLUES.

## Topsfield Warren Blues.

### OLD TIME MASSACHUSETTS INDEPENDENT INFANTRY.

BY BENJAMIN J. BALCH.

The great merit of the Topsfield Warren Blues as a military company, and the great esteem with which the people regarded their infantry, deserves that its history should have been confided to abler hands. If the work which is here presented contains any merit it should in justice be ascribed to the subject alone. Its numerous defects the author can impute to no one but himself.

The interest which was taken in forming infantry companies sixty years ago was not confined to this locality alone. Almost every town in the commonwealth had its favorite independent infantry. The amusements of the people were centered mainly in the training days which brought out the gay uniforms, shining equipments and animating march and drill of the soldiers to the sound of martial music.

The amusements and habits of the people sixty years ago were very different from those of the present day. More hours were given to labor every day through the year, boys were given scarcely a holiday through the year unless it was when the wonderful training day came round. In contrasting the habits of the people in those days with one whose memory goes back to that period he says: "I remember well the single holiday for the year to go to Georgetown to see the parade of the Boxford Washington Guards and Topsfield Warren Blues. After my morning chores upon the farm were done, with six cents given me for spending money, which I counted a great sum, I ran all the way to Georgetown, seven miles, without resting, so as to get there in season to hear the first drum beat. I have a recollection also, he says, of an experience that day of a serious nature. With three of my six cents given me for spending money I bought an orange. My other three cents I laid up for safe keeping. My orange I ate peel and all, which made me so sick that it gives me a painful sensation even now to think of it."

The prudent habits in childhood of Dean Perley, which was the boy's name, followed him in after years. He has been a successful man in his business in the neighboring town of Danvers and is now hale and jolly as he was fifty-five years ago when he ran through the woods at Boxford to get early on the training ground. The training day was about all that brought the people together, old or young, except the always fully attended church on Sunday. In contrast with the condition of society at that time we now have some half a dozen secret orders besides numerous other organizations, the public library and the Sunday newspaper. With all these provisions for the intellectual, moral and religious welfare of the people, it is somewhat doubtful if the conditions of the people are greatly advanced from what they were sixty years ago.

The chief motive in forming the Infantry company, says Mr. Wm. E. Kimball, one of the prime movers in the enterprise, was *the fun of it*. Military drill, discipline and march to the sound of martial music was a joyous excitement. The gay uniforms, the shining equipages and the name of Infantry added to the interest. Back of it all the inspiring motive — the spirit of patriotism.

The captain of the old Militia, Nathaniel Conant, who was to be captain of the Infantry, was an officer in whom they all could take pride. He was then in the prime of life, being forty years of age, of fine military bearing and possessed of a thorough knowledge of the art military, a quality which he inherited from his ancestor, Roger Conant Bancroft, speaking of Conant in his history, says "he was a man of extraordinary vigor. Inspired as if by some superior instinct he succeeded in breathing his sub-

lime courage into his three companions, and they resolved to remain at the hazard of their lives as sentinels of the birth of American freedom."

"The Topsfield Warren Blues were organized June, 1836."

This is the wording of record kept by A. S. Peabody, clerk of the company, which is the only writing found among his papers which has any reference to the company. The person who came in possession of the record book of the company after it was disbanded, regarded it of no value and it became torn and defaced and finally it went to the waste basket. Independent Infantry companies are not registered at the State department. We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. John H. Towne for a copy of papers relating to the company which he had preserved from his father's papers, who was a member of the company. They read as follows:

Topsfield, Aug. 26, 1835.

To MR. BENJAMIN B. TOWNE:

Your first assessment for uniform and equipments is \$20.00 which you are requested to pay to the clerk of the Light Infantry on or before the 12th of September next.

Per order of Standing Committee,

WILLIAM E. KIMBALL, Chairman

Topsfield. Sept. 10, 1836.

Received of Benjamin B. Towne the sum of \$20.00, it being his first assessment for uniform and equipments.

A. S. PEABODY, Clerk.

Topsfield, Sept. 28, 1836.

Received of Benjamin B. Towne the sum of \$20.00, it being his second and third assessments for a uniform and equipments.

A. S. PEABODY, Clerk.

Topsfield, Nov. 16, 1837

You being duly enrolled as a member of the T. W. Blues are hereby directed to appear in citizen's dress at Capt. William Munday's Tavern on Thursday, the 16th day of November, at one o'clock, to choose a Lieutenant and to fill all vacancies that may appear or occur.

Per order of Commander,

A. S. PEABODY, Clerk.

What further items we have gathered of the history of the company we learn from the few members of the company now living, and from various other sources. We are cautioned, however, not to rely too much on memory or tradition to frame a history. Yet we have some warrant in standing fast and holding to the memory and tradition of the Elders. The finest literary productions the world has ever known, which form a part of the classic literature taught in our schools, were transmitted down by memory from generation to generation, ages before the invention of the alphabet. "Memory was the mother of the muses," their language the song of the minstrel. To memory alone we owe the preservation of those lofty strains of poetical inspiration as they were transmitted down those far off ages.

In the preliminary arrangements for the formation of the Infantry company there occurred an incident which caused great division in the company and came well nigh breaking up the organization. It was then toward the latter part of President Jackson's second term of office and political excitement was running high. Jackson had been chiefly noted during his administration for coercing the rebellious spirit of South Carolina into obedience, and for destroying the United States Bank. This administration had also been noted for being rather expensive in comparison with the preceding one under John Quincy Adams. The person who had been selected by the ladies to purchase the banner with an appropriate motto, was a staunch Adams man, or Whig, as the party was called. He conceived the idea that patriotic principles might be represented on the banner even if there was a slight hint at the politics of the times. The yearly expense of the government under the Adams administration had

been thirteen million dollars, that of Jackson thirty-nine million. Upon one side of the banner was to be painted the portrait of Warren underneath the words. "To die for one's country is both sweet and honorable." Upon the other side of the banner it was to read "From 13 million to 39 million." The object of this was to show the contrast in the expenses of the government under a Whig administration and under a Democratic. Luke R. Prince of Beverly, a celebrated painter, was engaged to do the work. The committee man kept his counsel and watched for the banner. In due time the beautiful silk banner came with the portrait of Warren painted on one side as directed; on the other side no 13 million to 39 appeared, but instead the picture of a donkey with stubborn disposition depicted on his countenance. Here was mischief. Who did this? Where did this work come from? was demanded by every member of the company. No one could explain, but there was suspicion that certain Democrats in the company were "in it." There was such discord that it appeared as if the company would disband at once. It was then but a few days to the time fixed for the formal ceremony of presenting the banner to the company. Arrangements were nearly completed, nearly \$2000 had been expended for uniforms and equipments, costing each member \$40, and the bright and glorious prospects of the company had apparently come to an end; but, in the midst of discord and confusion, a faint ray of light was allowed to break in on the darkness. From some unknown source came word that the motto of the banner originated from no member of the company. This changed the aspect of affairs. In their glow of patriotism no one wished to disband the company if it could be avoided. As the matter was explained they began to look upon the affair as a huge joke. It finally settled down that the Democrats, or Locofocos, as they were called, were satisfied with the picture, as a donkey stood for firmness, which trait in this animal they regarded as representing Jackson's character, while the Whigs said the picture was a fair resemblance of an ape, an animal which they regarded Jackson resembled both in looks and character. In this construction of the matter the subject rested. every one enjoying his own conclusions.

Long time afterward it came to light that the inevitable clown in the drama in the affairs of the town, either secular or sacred, had put his foot into the subject. He had gained access to the painter of the banner in behalf of the committee for the purpose of making a change in the motto. It may be supposed the painter readily complied with the request, as he also was a Democrat or Locofoco. For prudent reasons it is thought best that the name of the chief conspirator in this affair be withheld till a certain event transpires, which, in the course of nature, sooner or later, comes to all. Everything was now bustle and stir in preparation for the formal reception of the banner. The Boxford Washington Guards, William Low, commander, were invited to be present on the occasion. The celebrated Boston Brass Band, Joseph Green leader, was engaged for the day. This was the band which was led at one time by the celebrated performer on the bugle, Ned Kendal, and later by Arthur Hall. Mr. Hall had a gold bugle presented to him as a compliment to his great merit as a performer on the bugle. This was before the gold basis excitement, other than what was caused by the gold in this rare instrument. The banner was to be presented to the company (with an appropriate address) by one of Topsfield's fairest daughters Miss Sally Munday, who was chosen for this duty by the ladies of the town.

The mode of traveling long distances in those days was by stage. This occasion was two years previous to the opening of the railroad for travel between Boston and Salem. The Boston Brass Band therefore must come to Topsfield by stage. A stage ride from Boston to Topsfield was an adventure which few in these years would care to undertake. It was run or trot the horses all the distance up hill and down from start to finish. The relays between Boston and Newburyport were at Lynnfield and at Cummings' in Topsfield. The names of Mendon, Pinkham, Tuttle and

Conant are familiar to the older people whose memory goes back to those joyous days as the gallant stage drivers who passed daily over the Turnpike between Boston and Newburyport. The sensation they caused among the young people is remembered as they reined into town four-in-hand blowing their stage horn as the signal of approach. Great was the commotion at Cummings' on hearing the sound of the stage horn. The clattering of dishes and glasses; the delicious odor of rich viands and cordials betokened the bounteous table always to be found at Cummings' Hotel. This celebrated hostelry became the favorite resort of the Warren Blues on many a festive occasion in after years. It is remembered that a learned parrot lived for many years in the barroom at this place. When the parrot heard the sound of the stage horn he always gave notice to the trusty man of affairs in a loud, distinct voice, saying "Uncle Jones, stage coming," and to the faithful cook, "Granny Bowdoin, get dinner, stage coming." On the occasion of the presentation of the banner to the Warren Blues the extra stages, which brought the band from Boston, were to stop at the new hotel kept by Captain William Munday. It was this Captain's daughter who was to deliver the address and present the banner to the new company. Captain Munday gained his commission in the government service as captain of a company of cavalry. This company had then been sometime disbanded. The last time they met for choice of officers, which was at Newburyport, the company had dwindled down to so few in number that it took the whole company to fill the offices except one man. The officers took pity on the poor lone trooper and began to cast about to make him an officer. "Don't trouble yourselves," said Thomas Moore, the trooper's name, "I had rather be a whole company than one single officer."

Early on Thursday the 27th of October, 1836, strangers began to gather into the little town nestled away among the hills where freedom had its birth, and soon a great multitude thronged the village. This was the day when the Infantry company was to receive its banner; the place appointed for the reception was on the compass in front of the academy. The armory of the company was in the academy building. Early in the morning the company met at their armory, from whence they marched to the Boxford line and escorted the Boxford Washington Guards to the elegant mansion of their generous townsman, Asa Pingree, Esq., where they partook of a splendid collation. At two o'clock General Lowe, Major Stone, the two companies and invited guests dined at Captain Munday's Hotel. They were served with a most sumptuous dinner. These munificent tokens of respect, so politely and gratuitously tendered, excited the gratitude of all who partook of such liberal entertainment. After dinner the two companies, with the citizens joining, were escorted by the Brass Band to the grounds in front of the academy. Miss Sally Munday, then coming forward and standing on the steps of the building, arrayed in white, the flag in her right hand, addressed the company in these words:—

"Soldiers: It is with patriotic pride, in the name of the ladies of Topsfield, I present you this banner and bid you emulate the virtues and military talent of the undaunted Warren, whose name you have chosen. Should the Independence ever be endangered, which he and his associates gained for you, may you arm with the same zeal and conquer in the cause of freedom. Who among you will shrink from following this standard in defense of his country and his home? Who will refuse to make himself a supporter of the liberty so nobly gained by the heroes of the Revolution, and who, as the silken folds of this unstained pennant are cast to the free air of Heaven, will forget that God arms the hand and shields the heart of the patriot? In this faith may you ever be found amid the guardians which Heaven sends to protect the freedom of our happy land. May you never rally round this banner staff save in a rightful cause."

The address was given with that grace of manner and force of expression, which called forth the loud cheers of the people. After the response by the band, Captain Nathaniel Conant replied to the address as follows:

"Madam: In the name of the Topsfield Warren Blues we gratefully accept and tender our most respectful acknowledgement to the ladies of Topsfield for this very beautiful standard. We hope the name we have selected for our corps will ever prompt us to deeds of valor, and that in the service of our country we shall always follow without shaming the immortal image borne upon this flag, and our homes, ever dear, will possess new and increased value from the manifestations which the ladies of Topsfield have been pleased to make to us in regard to our corps. We profess to train and prepare ourselves for the protection of virtue, the defense of liberty and independence, the security of our institutions, civil, literary and religious, relying for aid in such important duties upon a continuance of your favorable regards and the smiles of Heaven; and hope we shall be ready at all times to adopt the motto inscribed on our banner, "To die for one's country is both sweet and honorable." The address of Capt. Conant was also received with great applause.

After the banner was received, Capt. Conant placed it in the hand of William E. Kimball, who had been chosen bearer of the banner by the company. General Lowe then gave a sentiment in which he most happily alluded to the protection the ladies so justly merited from the soldiers and citizens of our happy and glorious Republic. In the evening the lovers of music were entertained at the hotel in the most pleasing manner by the performances of the band. There was also a grand ball that evening at Cummings'.

The day was fine, and the whole exhibition was brilliant and gratifying. To be definite concerning the apparel of the fair orator for the occasion, her dress was white muslin, low neck, short sleeves, blue trimmings, and long mitts. Not long after this eventful day Miss Munday was married to the lieutenant of the company, Lemuel Holten Gould, whom, it is said, she captured on this occasion and held him her prisoner. Lieutenant Gould was afterward promoted captain of the company, Capt. Conant being promoted Maj. of Brigade. We are indebted to the daughter of Mrs. Gould, Mrs. Ann Gould Ferguson, for a copy of the address. Many incidents of interest occurred during the day in connection with the celebration, but the space which is allotted for this paper will not permit us to make record. We shall therefore pass to a few of the prominent points of interest in connection with this company.

The music employed by the company for regular duty, or the company band so called, is of next importance to the company itself. This band was composed of seven members, called the McKenzie Band; part of the members belongings in West Ipswich or Firetown, so-called, and part in Topsfield. The leader of the band, Alfred McKenzie, played B flat bugle. This was before the invention of the cornet of latter days. It appears by the scriptures there was an instrument that went by that name several thousand years ago. Addison McKenzie, a brother of Alfred, also played B flat bugle. Samuel McKenzie, brother played trombone; Joseph Chapman, clarionet; William Spiller, fife; John B. Lake, son of Silas Lake who many years ago was a famous player on snare drum, played bass drum; and Ephraim Averill played on the snare drum. For a country band in those days it was considered good music. If the Boston Brass Band excelled in practice, the McKenzie band was not wanting in the knowledge of the theory of music. For genius and quaint originality of character, some of the members of this band were greatly distinguished. They were greatly liked by the Warren Blues and continued to be the company's band so long as they preserved their organization. Out of the seven members of the band, four are still living, all over eighty years of age, Ephraim Averill, Alfred McKenzie, Joseph Chapman and William Spiller. Out of the whole company, 36 when organized, five only are living. In contrast it speaks favorably for the profession of a musician so far as it pertains to length of days. Mr. Joseph Chapman, to whom I am indebted for much information concerning the band and company, is remarkably well preserved for a man of his age. In speaking with him a

few days ago of incidents in connection with the presentation of the flag, said he, "I think I can recall some of the first part of Miss Munday's address. Wasn't it something this way, 'Soldiers: It is with patriotic pride I present you this banner?'" These words were accurately remembered by Mr. Chapman after merely hearing them uttered nearly sixty years ago.

Incidents of interest which happened on training days are remembered by the old people and told with great enjoyment. It was on the day of Brigade muster, which occurred in Topsfield in the fall of 1839 or 1840. The field appropriated for this purpose was the land where now are the residences of Mrs. Herrick, Miss Ray and Frederick Merriam, extending back as far as the land of Mrs. Kimball's. From this place up to Captain Munday's Hotel, on that day, the ground was covered with gambling tables, roulette, dice and other gambling inventions. The crowd that occupied these tables was chiefly from Boston. Money in great abundance was seen on the tables and rapidly changing hands from one to another. As it was exposed to public view it greatly annoyed the citizens of the town. In the afternoon, as soon as the companies were dismissed, a platoon of the Warren Blues was seen charging on the double quick in the direction of the gambling tables. In an instant, dice, roulette tables, money and all were overturned and rolling in a broken mass on the ground. The gamblers fled for their lives. This incident reflected great credit on the Warren Blues, and made them respected by every citizen in town. It was a custom, as has been observed, for the Warren Blues on training days to visit Cummings' Hotel, situated upon the turnpike. It was a pleasant march there as there was a fine view at that place of the surrounding country. They were on their return on this particular occasion from this hospitable resort, when the old militia company, which was obliged by law to come out at May training, had formed on the common and were on the march towards the same resort which the Warren Blues had just visited. There was some feeling existing between the two companies caused partly by the contrast in the uniforms and equipage; partly by the great crowd which followed the Infantry showing by this their partiality to the gay uniforms. On the level ground near the brook, where the two companies were to pass each other, was a large puddle of water which was caused by the recent rains and the formation of the road, which was made in that place to hold the water. Such a place is not a rare thing in these days. It was noticed before reaching the spot where they were to pass; a member of the militia company stepped from the ranks and took a stone from the wall and concealed it under his coat. When they were just opposite the water the man threw the stone with great force into the water, which splashed mud and water over many of the gay uniforms. This brought out a rousing cheer from the militia. In conversing with an old lady, wife of one of the infantry, she says, "you can't think how much work it cost us to keep those uniforms clean. Every time they trained," she said, "we had to remove the red stripe from the white trousers (she called them trouser,) as the red would mix with the white if washed together, and we had to take off the buttons from the coats to scour them. It was a deal of work, but," she said, "we wimmen enjoyed looking at the soldiers, all the same." There really was no personal feeling between the members of the two companies. The man who threw the stone that splashed the mud on the uniforms was one of the best friends of the Infantry. He, like many others of the militia, contributed generously to their support. He gave them on the occasion of their organization his peculiar sum, which he gave for special objects, \$33.33 $\frac{1}{3}$ , and managed some way to make the change himself. He was no other than Asa Pingree, who entertained them so generously at his mansion on the occasion of the reception of their banner.

For want of time we can merely allude to the sham fight at the Brigade muster in Boxford, in the fall of 1838, which reflected great credit on the discipline of the Warren Blues, also their visit at Bunker Hill, 4th of July

1842, on the occasion of celebrating the completion of Bunker Hill monument, Daniel Webster delivering the oration. How long the organization continued we have no record. Independent companies received a bounty of five dollars a soldier. In 1845 they received the last bounties of which they have a record. About this time the law providing for this bounty was repealed and the company disbanded.

We now come to that part of the history of the company of chiefest importance. What mean the letters on that cap and knapsack, T. W. B., Topsfield Warren Blues? What did the name of Warren signify to that company? What does the name of Warren signify to us? In answer to this question we point to the Nation. There she is—behold her!

As we consider the many millions that have been affected by the name Warren, the increasing millions who are yet to follow, it is fitting to note if we are guided by the same compass that directed that great leader in the principles that laid the foundation of the Great Republic. In the library of the state department is a volume of manuscripts of great value. They are the original responses sent by the Massachusetts towns to the committee of correspondence, Samuel Adams, Joseph Warren and James Otis, who had asked the people to convene together and express their feelings and opinion in regard to the infringements of Parliament on the rights of the people, so that, in the answers returned, the collected wisdom and fortitude of the whole people might dictate measures for the rescue of their happy and glorious constitution." One of those papers is from Topsfield signed by Captain Samuel Smith, Captain John Boardman and Deacon John Gould, a committee chosen by the town to forward their answer.

We honor and revere the men of the Revolution for their bravery in the hour of battle, but their courage dates back to the principles which inspired them, the preparation for the coming event. The collected wisdom and fortitude of the people, as expressed through these papers from the different towns, inspired them with courage for the coming conflict. It laid the foundation of the first government of the people on the earth, created by the people and for the people. It was sealed in the blood of the immortal Warren. Surrounding that great spirit are gathered a great multitude who have given their lives to defend the government that the Nation might live and not perish from the earth. As we dedicate this evening to the memory of our patriot fathers, it is fitting that we renew our vows of fidelity to the principles for which they gave their "*last, full measure of devotion.*"

#### Roster of the Company.

	Commissioned.		Commissioned
Capt. Nathaniel Conant	June 30, 1836	3d Lieut. Thomas Gould	May 27, 1840
Capt. Lemuel H. Gould	Dec. 24, 1840	Ensign Joel Lake	June 30, 1836
1st Lieut. Nathaniel Perley	June 30, 1836	Ensign Nehemiah Balch	Nov. 16, 1837
1st Lieut. Joel Lake	Nov. 16, 1837	Surgeon Joseph C. Batchelder.	
1st Lieut. Thos. P. Munday	Dec. 24, 1840	Surgeon's Mate, Joseph Lloyd Wellington.	
2d Lieut. Thomas P. Munday	May 27, 1840	Chaplain, Leonard B. Griffin.	
2d Lieut. Thomas Gould	Dec. 24, 1840		

Capt. Nat'l Conant was promoted Sept. 7, 1840, major and inspector of the 4th Brigade, Mass. Lt. Infantry.

Lieut. Nat'l Perley was promoted major Aug. 8, 1837, Lieut. Col. Sept. 6, 1838, Colonel Mar. 27, 1839 and Brigadier General of the 4th Mass. Light Infantry Sept. 4, 1840.

**ADAMS, BENJAMIN F.** Came from N. H., was a farmer and shoemaker, built the house now owned by Levi Beal, removed to Reading, Mass., about 1875, and died there in 1888, aged 80.

**ADAMS, BENJAMIN.** Came from Middleton, Mass., was a shoemaker by trade, built the house now occupied by J. J. Hardy, was popularly known as "Little Ben." Died in Topsfield in 1849, aged 36.

**ANDREWS, AARON A.** Born in Topsfield, a butcher by trade and employed by T. P. Munday, enlisted in 23d Mass. Infantry, but was never mustered into the service. Died in Topsfield in 1877, aged 54.

- ATKINSON, WILLIAM D.** Came to Topsfield from Lynn, worked at his trade, house painting, for a short time, and removed to Boston.
- AVERILL, AARON PERLEY** Born in Topsfield, a shoemaker by trade, removed to Georgetown and died there in 1865, aged 55.
- BALCH, NEHEMIAH** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1884, aged 77. Was a shoe manufacturer, served the town as treasurer and assessor, was ensign of the company.
- BATCHELDER, JOSEPH CUMMINGS** Came from Boxford, was an excellent physician, removed to Templeton, Mass., in 1850, after practicing medicine in Topsfield nearly fifteen years; he was the successor of Jeremiah Stone M. D., who removed to Provincetown, Mass., in 1836. Dr. Batchelder built the house now owned and occupied by John Bailey; he was representative to the General Court in 1846, was the inventor of the boring machine that was used for a time while the Hoosac Tunnel was being constructed, proving at that time a partial failure, enlisted as surgeon in the 23d Mass. Vols., but saw little service. was surgeon of the company of "Blues."
- BASSETT, DAVID** Came from Gloucester and learned the wheelwright's trade with Thomas K. Leach, removed to Beverly?
- BLAISDELL, JAMES** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1856, aged 32, a shoemaker by trade.
- BRACKETT, CHARLES C.** Came from Wolfboro, N. H., was a carpenter by trade and built many of the older houses now standing in town, also in 1848 the church at Linebrook parish. He lived in town about ten years, removing to Ipswich in 1848 and afterwards to Quincy, Mass., where he died about 1880. Represented the town at the General Court in 1843.
- BRADSTREET, JOHN** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1847, aged 36, was a shoemaker, at one time living in Boxford.
- BRADSTREET, WILLIAM** Born in Topsfield, a farmer, and is now living in Danvers.
- CHAPMAN, EDWARD A.** He was a cabinet maker by trade, and also worked as a house painter. Removed to Haverhill.
- CHAPMAN, JOHN K.** Came from Linebrook parish, Ipswich, shoemaker and farmer. Is now living in Ipswich.
- CLARK, DAVID** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1880, aged 66. Farmer Selectman for a number of years.
- CONANT, NATHANIEL** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1872, aged 76. Was captain of the "Blues" at their organization, afterwards being promoted to be major and brigade inspector of the 4th Brigade Mass. Light Infantry. He represented the town twice at the General Court, in 1854 and 1863.
- CROWELL, JOSIAH** Came from Salem, was a shoemaker by trade. Died in Topsfield in 1886, aged 89.
- CURRIER, MOSES J.** Came from Enfield, N. H., was a clerk in F. & N. Perley's general store, and after living in town about three years removed to Danvers, where he died in 1892.
- DODGE, FRANCIS** Lived in Hamilton, was a farmer.
- ELLIOT, CHARLES A.** Born in Topsfield, was a shoemaker and farmer. Removed to Danvers in 1855 and died there in 1895.
- GALLUP, WILLIAM PORTER** Born in Topsfield, and died there in 1890, aged 80. Was a shoe bottom finisher, and engaged in the undertaking business for a number of years, built the house now occupied by his son, W. W. Gallup, was sergeant in the company.
- GIFFORD, WILLIAM R.** Came from Salem, removed to the state of New York in 1843 or 4. Farmer.
- GOULD, ARTHUR H.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1879, aged 61. Carried on a large butchering business, was selectman for a number of years.
- GOULD, CHARLES** Born in Topsfield, shoemaker. Is still living.
- GOULD, EMERSON P.** Born in Topsfield. A school master in his younger days, afterwards learning the butchering business. Enlisted in the 48th Mass. Vols., and died in the hospital at Baton Rouge, La., June 5,

1863, aged 51, from the effects of an injury received in the slaughter house connected with the army headquarters.

**GOULD, JONATHAN PORTER** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1860, aged 46. Carried on a large butchering business

**GOULD, JOSIAH L.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1880, aged 63. Was a farmer, built the house now owned by Horace Bradstreet.

**GOULD, LEMUEL HOLTON** Born in Topsfield in 1809, farmer. Went to California in 1858, living there until his death at Sacramento in 1877, Was captain of the company succeeding Capt. Nathaniel Conant in 1840.

**GOULD, THOMAS** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1882, aged 75, was a farmer, superintendent of the almshouse for nearly 12 years, a selectman, and represented the town at the General Court in 1849. Served as 2d and 3d lieutenant of the company.

**GRIFFIN, LEONARD B.** A minister in the Methodist Episcopal church. Born in Connecticut, came to Topsfield from Gloucester, preached in Topsfield in 1840-1, a successful charge, twenty-five joining the church while under his care. From Topsfield he went to Cambridgeport; was chaplain of the company.

**HOOD, JOHN GOULD** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1858, aged 51. Was an able schoolmaster in his younger days, afterwards a farmer and justice of the peace, also holding many offices in the town government. For a great many years he manufactured coffins, supplying Topsfield and the adjoining towns.

**HUBBARD, HUMPHREY GOULD** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1847, aged 40. Shoemaker.

**JAMES, SAMUEL** Born in Salem and died in Topsfield in 1873, aged 71. Was a shoemaker, afterwards engaging in the express business between Topsfield and Salem, carrying it on about ten years.

**KIMBALL, BENJAMIN** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1882, aged 80. Manufactured a high grade of boots; was town treasurer 1853-61.

**KIMBALL, WILLIAM E.** Born in Topsfield. carried on a blacksmithing business in his earlier days, but afterwards engaged in the grocery and East India goods business; died in Danvers, Nov., 1895, aged 91.

**LAKE, DAVID, JR.** Born in Topsfield, a farmer, but at one time carried on a shoe manufacturing business; became infected with the gold fever in 1852 and started for California by way of the Isthmus. Reached Panama in safety and, with some seventy others, chartered a small schooner and sailed for San Francisco. The vessel was insufficiently provisioned and nearly half of those on board died of starvation and found a watery grave. The survivors finally reached the California coast, and after spending four years in the state Mr. Lake returned to Topsfield April 4, 1859. He started for California a second time, and on the 28th died in the Pacific ocean on the upward voyage from Panama, aged 62.

**LAKE, ELEAZER, JR.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1867, aged 57. He was a farmer and shoemaker; was held in great repute as a hunter.

**LAKE, JOHN BROWN** Born in Boston and died in Boxford in 1878, aged 61. Was a farmer and shoemaker. Started for California in 1852, reached Panama, but was unable to obtain passage for San Francisco and returned to Topsfield. Enlisted in the 23d Mass. Inf.; was base drummer in McKenzie's band.

**LAKE, JOEL** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1860, aged 57. Shoe manufacturer and nurseryman.

**LAMSON, JOSIAH B.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1868, aged 53. Farmer.

**LANE, THOMAS L.** Born in Gloucester and died in Topsfield in 1856, aged 40. Was a boot and shoe manufacturer, selectman for many years.

**LEACH, THOMAS KIMBALL** Came from Wenham and died in Topsfield in 1892, aged 77. Carried on a wheelwright business for 57 years.

**LEMONT, STEPHEN W.** Came from Litchfield, Me., and died in Topsfield in 1844. Was a blacksmith.

- LEWIS, FREDERICK A.** Came from Salem; was a sailor by profession, but worked at shoemaking, at one time sailed in coasting and fishing vessels. The Gloucester boat of which he was first mate was lost on the Grand Banks, not a man returning to tell the tale.
- LONG, HENRY** Came from No. Andover, Mass., and died in Topsfield in 1871, aged 52. Blacksmith and stable keeper. He at one time trained with the Washington Guards of Boxford.
- MCKENZIE, ADDISON** Born in Topsfield and died in Dover, N. H., in 1866, aged 44. He was a machinist by trade; played B flat bugle in McKenzie's band.
- MCKENZIE, ALFRED** Born in Topsfield and is now living in Peabody, shoe manufacturer. Leader of McKenzie's band, playing B flat bugle.
- MCKENZIE, CONSTANTINE** Born in Topsfield, a carpenter by trade; went to California in 1852 and is now living in San Francisco.
- MCKENZIE, SAMUEL S** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1891, aged 81. Civil engineer and jeweller; selectman and representative to the General Court in 1852. Played trombone in McKenzie's band.
- MOORE, THOMAS** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1868, aged 66. Butcher. Was standard bearer of the company.
- MUNDAY, THOMAS P.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1862, aged 45. Carried on a large butchering business; was 1st and 2d lieutenant of the company.
- PEABODY, AUGUSTINE SIMONDS** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1884, aged 73. Was a school teacher, shoe cutter, and at one time engaged in stock brokerage business in Boston. For nearly forty years he was superintendent of the Sunday school connected with the Congregational church. Served the town as selectman for nine years; was orderly sergeant of the company.
- PEABODY, FRANCIS DANA.** Born in Topsfield and died in Rowley in 1891, aged 75; bootmaker.
- PEABODY, THOMAS, JR.** Born in Topsfield and died in Georgetown in 1872, aged 47. Shoemaker. Enlisted in the 26d Mass. Vols.
- PEABODY, WILLIAM CUMMINGS** Born in Topsfield and is now living in Georgetown. Shoemaker. At the present time (1895) is the oldest fireman living in Mass.
- PERKINS, AMOS, JR.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1894, aged 84. Shoe manufacturer.
- PERKINS, NATHANIEL, JR.** Born in Wenham and died in Topsfield in 1846, aged 32. Farmer.
- PERKINS, NEHEMIAH, JR.** Born in Topsfield, died in Auburn, Me., in 1892, aged 71. Farmer and shoemaker.
- PERKINS, ROBERT SUMNER** Born in Topsfield, school teacher, removed to Danvers and engaged in the soap business. Is still living in Danvers. Was sergeant in the company.
- PERLEY, HUMPHREY** Born in Ipswich. Is now living in Boxford, farmer.
- PERLEY, JOHN, JR.** Born in Ipswich and was found dead in Topsfield in 1880, aged 76. Farmer.
- PERLEY, JOHN FRANCIS, JR.** Born in Boxford and died in Topsfield in 1893, aged 69. Shoemaker and carpenter.
- PERLEY, NATHANIEL** Born in Boxford, died in Topsfield in 1864, aged 37. Carpenter and shoemaker.
- PERLEY, NATHANIEL** Born in Topsfield and died in Boston in 1842, aged 43. Kept general and East India goods store, 1st lieutenant of the company at its organization, promoted through the various grades until Sept. 4, 1840, he was commissioned Brigadier General of the 4th Brigade Mass. Light Infantry. Represented the town at the General Court in 1838.
- PERLEY, OSGOOD** Born in Boxford, died in Topsfield 1886, aged 71, butcher.
- PHILLIPS, ANDREW JACKSON** Born in Salem. Shoemaker and farmer. For a number of years sailed from New Bedford on whaling voyages, enlisted in 3d Mass. Hy. Arty. Now living in Linebrook Parish, Ipswich.
- PHILLIPS, JOHN** Born in Topsfield. Farmer. Killed in 1840 by being

thrown from a horse. Was buried from the house of Joel Lake with military honors from the "Warren Blues."

**POTTER, JOHN H.** Born in Ipswich. Carpenter and house builder. Built a number of houses in Topsfield and is still living there, working at his trade. Represented the town at the General Court in 1881; selectman for a number of years.

**SMALL, ISAIAH M.** Came from Alton, N. H. Shoemaker and carpenter, constable for many years. Removed to New York state.

**STILES, FREDERICK** Born in Middleton. Shoe manufacturer. Still living in Topsfield.

**TAYLOR, TROWBRIDGE CURTIS** Born in Weymouth, Mass. Came to Topsfield from Linebrook Parish. Shoemaker. Enlisted in 23d Mass. Vols., as musician. Removed to Ipswich and died there in 1893.

**TODD, JOHN** Born in Ipswich. Shoemaker and farmer. Died in Topsfield in 1865, aged 49.

**TOWNE, BENJAMIN B.** Born in Topsfield, and died there in 1888, aged 75. Farmer and shoemaker; selectman 1854-6.

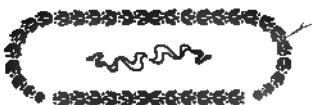
**WATTT, WILLIAM** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1888, aged 77. Shoemaker and expressman. Was blind the last years of his life.

**WELLINGTON, JOSEPH LLOYD** Came from Templeton, Mass. Was a medical student, studying with Dr. Batchelder, his brother-in-law. Surgeon's Mate of the company.

**WILDES, MOSES, 2d** Born in Topsfield, died there in 1895, aged 84. Shoemaker.

**WHIPPLE, JOHN S.** Came from Hamilton. Butcher. Died in So. Tamworth, N. H., in 1888, aged 59.

**WRIGHT, JAMES** Blacksmith. Removed to Lowell.



# The Trial of Elizabeth Porter Bradstreet for the Crime of Arson.

BY MRS. THEODORE W. HAVEN.

"Stand still, my steed.  
Let me review the scene  
And summon from the shadowy Past  
The forms that once have been."

Down the aisles of memory come trooping myriads of shadowy figures and fancies, ghostly reminiscences of childhood's imaginative, dreamy hours.

Perhaps the first distinctive one is that of attending divine service in the meeting house, as it was generally called in those days. Now its more familiar appellative is the church. Clearly do I recall its external appearance of three decades ago. The vast area of its bare, white-washed walls, the hieroglyphic marks across their surface made by cracks in the plastering; the vivid impression of one of them back of the wing pews on the west side of the nave has never been effaced from memory's camera. It ascended and descended in regular lines like steps and somehow I associated it with the ladder ascending into Heaven, as narrated in the story of "Jacob's dream."

Well do I remember the rising of a gray haired man who used to sit in one of the east wing pews, during prayer service. I could never reconcile his standing up, while the rest of the men in the congregation remained seated. Often I wondered if it were a penalty for something he had done amiss. I have since learned it was a custom handed down from our "Puritan ancestors," a visible protest against the kneeling ceremony of the "Established Church." Doubtless his fathers from the third generation back had done likewise; his grand-children follow not the custom, for it has become obsolete.

Shall I forego mention of the preacher who occupied the pulpit whose words of exhortation, warning and prayer were heard from it for so many years and perchance find a responsive echo in the souls of some of my hearers? Indeed, no! In those days I had only a child's acquaintance with him, a feeling of awe and respect when he spoke to me, a sense of having been greatly honored if, perchance, he grasped my hand. In after years these emotions were only intensified by a more intimate acquaintance, a fuller appreciation of the grand, noble qualities of his mind and soul. Measured by the agnostic standards of today doubtless he would be reckoned as narrow in his theology, by the criticism of the "Andover heresy" as bigoted in his views; but, by the measure "pure in heart," majestically he towers among his contemporaries and successors as well.

Deep set in the recesses of the childish memories is the picture of a woman's face, her form bowed by the infirmities of age; plainly I see her before me, "in my mind's eye;" even to the details of her costume, a "paisley" shawl, which she invariably wore, a black, embroidered Spanish lace veil, always partially drawn over her face, are indelibly imprinted on its retina. There was something in that face which attracted my fancy. I know I must have inquired as regards its possessor, in my early years, for the outlines of her story seem almost a personal recollection. May it interest you, as it has me.

Backward I fling the curtain of time, which slowly, solemnly, unceasingly has dropped its folds around the actors of the event about to be narrated, shrouding within its unfolding embrace all of them. Fifty-eight years make wide ravages amongst the dwellers of earth. Death with a relentless sickle mercilessly cuts down his victims. The passing knell, mayhap, a shaft of marble, are the only tangible evidences of our having existed. He who serves well his day and generation, haply has attained

unto earth's highest good; to have served them ill, that man is cursed. The story opens with the account of a dire calamity, one of destruction engendered by that always to be dreaded foe, fire.

The Salem Gazette dated Oct. 17, 1836, contains the following paragraph: "On Monday morning a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. John Rea, Jr., in Topsfield, by which a tavern, large barn and store belonging to this gentleman were destroyed. We are informed by people who were on the spot that the fire originated in the barn, the contents of which a large quantity of hay, grain, etc., two horses, several hogs, two chaises and two or three wagons, were destroyed. Considerable of the house furniture was consumed; also many other articles in the house, including a gold watch. Mr. Perley's store on the opposite side of the street was preserved with great difficulty. It is supposed that the fire was the work of an incendiary, as it was first discovered in a part of the barn not used as a tavern stable and into which no one had been known to carry a light. Mr. Rea was aroused at about one o'clock. The alarm reached Salem a little before 2. Two engines from Danvers and one from New Rowley (now Georgetown) were present. Loss, \$5,000. Insured, \$2,000."

The event of the fire was an exciting episode in the history of the village. Most of the inhabitants were in bed and asleep at the time it commenced. Mr. Chas. Gould had just retired to his home. He partially dressed, got on a horse and rode through the town giving the alarm. The tavern stood on the site of the store now occupied by Mr. C. I. Trowbridge; the store on the site of Mr. John Bailey's residence. There were no buildings on the same side of the street on the north from Wildes' corner but a blacksmith shop. South of the tavern was the new Samuel Gould house. Next to it stood the old S. Gould house, and from there none till the house of John G. Hood on the present corner of Main and Prospect streets. What to me seems remarkable is the fact that it is the only fire on the main street of the village since it was first settled. May it be the last.

Of course the ever recurring question as regards the fire was: How was it set? Who did it? The property was insured for a large sum for those days; but there was a mortgage upon it, held by Hon. Ashael Huntington, which covered the full amount. Capt. Rea had recently failed in business, and the loss of his property by fire beggared him, so to speak. The topic was pretty generally canvassed by the townsfolk, as are local happenings at the present time. Many whispered suspicions which they dared not utter aloud. Mutterings of distrust against the Reas were heard on the horizon of public opinion, but none anticipated the terrific bolt nor its course in striking an unsuspecting, unprepared, unwarned victim.

A clipping from the Salem Gazette of Dec. 13, 1836, tells the story:—

#### CAPITAL CASE.

A magistrate's court was held last week at Topsfield before John W. Proctor, Esq., for the examination of Miss Elizabeth Porter Bradstreet, a maiden lady of a respectable family, on complaint made against her, charging her with the crime of arson, in setting fire to the dwelling house and buildings of Capt. John Rea in Topsfield a few weeks since.

The Salem Gazette, dated Dec. 16, 1836, contains the following:

By consent of the parties, and for reasons that were thought satisfactory, the time for the hearing in relation to the charge of setting fire to the buildings of Capt. John Rea in Topsfield on the 17th of the October last is postponed to Monday, Feb. 20, 1837.

Elizabeth Porter Bradstreet was housekeeper at the Rea tavern when it was burned, Capt. Rea, its proprietor, being a widower. Before entering into the details of the trial, I wish to tell you of the ancestry and early life of the accused.

Her first ancestors in this country were Gov. Simon Bradstreet and his wife, Ann Dudley. John, their son, married Sarah Perkins. They had a son named Simon, who married Elizabeth Capen, daughter of Par-

sumed so much time since the foundation of the government. I have only done my duty if I show on the part of the government that there is good reason to suspect the prisoner of being guilty of the crime imputed to her. I believe that the community admits that the fire commenced by design; any individual in the neighborhood might have done it as well as the prisoner had they a motive. I know that the people of this town will weigh the truth candidly."

So he goes on. Says very little with regard to the letter; but makes a strong point out of Miss Bradstreet's love for Rea and her avowed intention to win him; summing up the points of evidence against her which notoriously were all given by persons of the name of Rea, or their family connections, excepting Ann Sawyer. His speech occupied over two hours' time. I have been told by one who heard it that "it was considered a masterly affair," prejudicing many against him, they thinking that he need not have made so great an effort to convict one of his own townspeople. Doubtless this fact made him the more strenuous in the performance of his legal duty. It was not Ashael Huntington, the man and fellow-citizen who spoke, but Ashael Huntington, the district attorney. The case was given to the magistrates at 5.40 o'clock. They entered into a conference as to its merits and demerits, while the crowd waited expectantly for their verdict. A large number of strangers, young men, some 25 in number, were scattered throughout the audience. People wondered who they might be. It grew dark and the room was lighted, but no one stirred to leave the house. All were anxious to hear their decision. Finally the crier arose and stated that the decision would not be given out to the public till the next morning at 9 o'clock. It a great disappointment to the waiting crowd, but they were obliged to submit. An arrangement was made whereby the result of the trial should be made known to the people at large. If the prisoner was convicted the church bell should be tolled, if acquitted it was to peal the joyful tidings abroad. It was whispered about among the knowing ones, and the rumor had reached official ears, that those young strangers present were the ringleaders of a band which intended to make forcible demonstration inside the meeting house after the delivery of the verdict. If favorable to Miss Bradstreet, one of joy; if against her, one of indignation. Some who knew of the weakness of the structure, asked the judges to withhold their decision on this account, fearing that some of its timbers might collapse under the great weight of the audience, and the extra strain of stamping and rapid moving about. It was an old building. Not long after it was removed, the present church building being dedicated in 1842.

The fateful morning came. One aged woman has told me "that in her home breakfast was ready at the usual hour, but no one could eat it. Her father walked the floor, while none of the family had any desire to engage in their usual occupations."

Crowds of people gathered on the common as the fateful hour drew nigh, waiting for the peal of the bell, discussing the pros and cons of the evidence of the trial and its probable outcome. A perceptible silence fell upon them as the time of waiting lessened into a minute's duration; when it lacked only a second, heart throbs were almost audible. "They rung the bell till they rocked the steeple." The rejoicing was universal. What must not its glad tidings have meant to the woman whose life had been in jeopardy these last ten days? We can imagine it like the awakening from a most horrible nightmare; as a delivery from an impending weight on its way to crush the very life from her soul and body.

Who set the fire is still a mystery. Who wrote the letter is another; doubtless they will remain so.

In one of his sketches Hawthorne elaborates the idea that "'tis not the deed alone that constitutes sin but the thought as well." Someone in their thought deprived Elizabeth Porter Bradstreet of that gift bestowed upon her by the great Creator, life; hanged her upon the gallows, condemned her to the most ignominious form of death bestowed upon crimi-

there became too limited and the court removed to the Academy building. Of course the great piece of evidence against her was the letter. If proved to have been written by her, the conclusions would inevitably be damaging to her cause.

During the examination of witnesses, one of her brothers was asked if he had in his possession any letter written by his sister Elizabeth. He replied, "No! she did not know how to write a letter, therefore I have never received any." The only specimen of her handwriting extant at the time of the trial was a mis-spelled, badly written note to her step-mother. Comparing it with the letter received by Rea it was obvious that the handwriting was totally dissimilar. So that the letter charge fell through.

The time of the trial occupied 10 days; really over 11 days, but the court adjourned over one sitting to attend the funeral services of Dr. Nehemiah Cleveland. One reason for its great length was the large number of witnesses put on the stand to testify in behalf of the accused as to her character, standing, etc. Two persons only are living, now, of that number. The Reas left no stone unturned that might possibly bear on some circumstance that would tend to criminate her.

At length came the final day of the hearing, which it was decided should be held in the meeting house, March 3d. The sun rose clear, the day was warm and bright. The court opened promptly at 9 o'clock a. m. A few minutes before the time Mrs. McEwen came down the broad aisle of the meeting house, followed by the accused. After her came the high sheriff. The party seated themselves in the minister's pew, which was on the left side of the pulpit. The judges and counsel for both sides occupied the elder's seat, which was the height of two steps above the rest of the pews, and directly in front of the pulpit, extending the entire length of pulpit's platform. After prayer by Rev. James McEwen the court opened. The house filled rapidly. Every inch of standing room was filled. The galleries were packed with a sympathizing, expectant throng. Hon. Leverett Salstonstall opened his plea for the prisoner. He spoke of her former reputation, her integrity of character. He summed up her domestic and industrious qualities, scouted at her love for Rea as being the incentive of the crime, and the improbability of such a woman concocting so nefarious a scheme. He pointed out the discrepancies in the handwriting of the letter and of the note I have before spoken of. He thought it hard that Capt. Rea should tell the story of Miss Bradstreet's infatuation for himself and that she should remain silent. The ignominy of so doing was utterly indescribable. The argument was continued for nearly four hours. He finally commended her to the "mercy of the worldly judges, and that of Almighty God, who knoweth the innocence of the crime whereof she is accused." He took his seat amidst profound silence. After a conference among the judges, the court crier announced that the court would adjourn until 2 o'clock p. m. Many of the audience remained in the meeting house over the entire intermission in order to obtain good seats for the afternoon session. The prisoner repaired to the home of the McEwens, at which place she had been staying since the time of her arrest.

The court came in at precisely at 2 p. m. If the house was crowded in the morning, it was densely packed now, the crowd surging back on to its entrance steps. Hon. Ashael Huntington, district attorney for the commonwealth, commenced his charge to the judges, as follows: "I have no desire other than to do my duty. My feelings towards the community are friendly. The examination took place in this town by my desire. I consented that this lady might remain with her friends. I might have had her placed in jail, as always is done in cases of this kind. I have had no connection with Rea since the time of his failure till 1836. Do not lose a mill in consequence of the destruction of this property. I respect the feelings of this community toward the accused. It may all be a delusion, a mistake. It is the duty of the magistrates to carefully weigh all evidence presented. I don't believe an examination of this kind ever con-

sumed so much time since the foundation of the government. I have only done my duty if I show on the part of the government that there is good reason to suspect the prisoner of being guilty of the crime imputed to her. I believe that the community admits that the fire commenced by design; any individual in the neighborhood might have done it as well as the prisoner had they a motive. I know that the people of this town will weigh the truth candidly."

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nals of the deepest dye. In God's sight they were "guilty of murder of the first degree," with malice aforethought.

May He, in the wideness of His mercy, show pardon unto that guilty one.

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## A Sketch of Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland.

By CHARLES J. PEABODY.

In trying to collect material for this paper I have been impressed with the fact that, however deep may be the hold that a man gains on the men of his time, but few facts or traditions linger in the minds of a later generation. Hence much of value that I present may, doubtless, be well known, being obtained from books with which you are more familiar than myself.

The recalling, however, of the facts and incidents of such a life as that of Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland must be of advantage, and will impress on us the great service that was done in former days by a man who was wise, strong and true.

Nehemiah Cleaveland was the youngest son of Rev. John Cleaveland, of Ipswich, of whom it is said "he preached all the men of his Parish into the army of the Revolution and then went himself;" three of his sons were also in the army. Nehemiah at the age of 16 was an attendant on his father during the siege of Boston and afterward enlisted. He saw service at West Point and in New Jersey; he was also at Ticonderoga. After he left the army he worked on his father's farm and manifested the patience, courage and endurance that afterward distinguished him in increasing its productiveness and repairing the neglect caused by the absence during the war of its owner and his sons. At the age of 21, being disappointed in earlier hopes of a college education, he entered on the study of medicine with his brother at Byfield and later with Dr. Manning, of Ipswich.

He began his career as a physician in Topsfield in 1788, taking the practice of Dr. Dexter, who owned and occupied the farm afterward owned by Dr. Treadwell and now held by the Essex Agricultural Society. An ancient record says that at the auction of Dr. Dexter's personal property his medical library was purchased entire by Dr. Cleaveland; said library consisting of two books.

Soon after settling in Topsfield his practice extended to the surrounding towns, and his reputation as a consulting physician was established among other doctors as well as the people. In practice he is described as cautious and careful. He never undertook difficult surgical operations, but had a keen insight, a good memory, with the kind heart that gained the respect and esteem of the families among whom he was known as an adviser and guide in many matters outside medical practice.

He was Justice of the Peace, and in that capacity exerted a wide influence to promote good feeling among the people. An old man, who remembered Dr. Cleaveland, told me that two boys detected in petty thieving were brought before him for trial. The Dr., who was a man of great dignity of manner and never familiar and easy even with friends, talked to the boys in a solemn way of the wickedness of their conduct, and then saying, "I will read the law to you," took the old family Bible and read in an impressive manner the commandments and part of a chapter in Leviticus; then turning to the trembling boys, he said "I will let you go this time, but if you do anything wrong again, beware—." The boys thus warned, reformed and justified the Doctor's faith in the old law.

In 1811 he was chosen to the state senate, and though defeated the

next year, he was re-elected in 1815, retaining the position till 1819. when he refused to be longer a candidate. During his connection with the senate the historian tells us "His good judgment, sound sense and solid worth were neither unappreciated nor unacknowledged."

In 1814 he was made a Session Justice of the Circuit Court of Common Pleas. From 1820 to 1822 he was Associate Justice of the Court of Sessions for Essex County. In 1823 he was appointed Chief Justice. This station, the duties of which he discharged with ability and firmness, he retained till 1828, when he retired from all public business, and for nine years lived quietly at home, dying Feb. 26, 1837. In 1828 he received from Harvard University the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Dr. Cleaveland was nursed in the Puritan strictness of earlier times. His character, early formed and invigorated under the pressure of hardship and stern necessity amid the thrilling scenes of the Revolution, exhibited in his maturer year the strength and firmness which might be expected from such training. There was no effeminacy about him. He regulated his life with the closest regard to principle. If his strictness sometimes bordered on severity, his severity was of the wholesome kind. With all this his natural sensibilities were quick and tender.

In public affairs and political questions he took from his first entry into public life a lively interest. Of his political opinions his futurity will never feel ashamed, for they can say they were those of Hamilton, Jay and Washington. As a physician he was much esteemed by persons who had an opportunity to learn his worth. He made, indeed, no pretensions to extensive medical lore—he attempted no difficult surgical operations. But he had what all the schools of medicine of themselves cannot supply, an observing mind, a retentive memory, a good judgment and a high sense of responsibility. Nor did he, like too many country physicians, neglect the reading of medical books and journals. His practice was always prudent and cautious, qualities which young and ardent physicians are not apt sufficiently to admire. He was punctual in attending calls, and kind and cheerful in the sick room. He possessed in a high degree the qualities which ensure to a physician the confidence and attachment of his patients. But the country doctor finds many opportunities and calls to do good, for which the faculty, as such, give no prescriptions. Happy he who has the power and disposition to meet such calls.

He was twice married, first to Lucy Manning, of Ipswich. She died four years afterward, without children. His second wife was the daughter of Dr. Elisha Lord, of Connecticut. A family of nine children grew up around them.

After his retirement from public life he was well and usefully employed for good of the church and community. The greatest service he rendered this town was the founding of the Academy. He is remembered by a few of the older people in Topsfield as one of the only three persons in town who took a newspaper, which in the Doctor's case was lent about the neighborhood until it came to pieces

A vote of the Topsfield church to the effect 'that the pastor shall be authorized to associate Dr. Cleaveland with himself in the examination of persons for the admission to the church in such cases as he may be in doubt about himself,' well expresses the confidence the good people of that day felt in him. There is a tradition that one Sunday a stranger occupied the pulpit by exchange with the pastor. As the congregation was coming out at the close of the service, a good woman was asked, "How did you like the minister?" "I don't know yet," she said, "I must ask Dr. Cleaveland and then I will tell you what I think."

Another story going to show that when the Doctor had made up his mind to do a thing in a certain way, he was not easily turned from it, as follows: A small school was kept in a room of his house for the education of his daughters and a few other girls in the neighborhood. It was taught by a woman, and at the close of the term an examination was held open to the public. The Doctor arranged the furniture for the occasion and put the seats for his daughters in front of the rest, much to their

annoyance. "O father," they said, "we do not want to sit there with nothing in front of us." "Go put your aprons on and have something in front of you, if you wish," was the reply.

Dr. Cleaveland trained his children to be very self-reliant. An illustration of this is as follows: Late one evening a stranger came to his house and asked to be carried to Ipswich. The Doctor was willing to do so, but instead of going himself he called his eight year old son, William, who had gone to bed, to get up and take the stranger to Ipswich. The little fellow did so, and arrived home after a long, lonely ride a little after midnight.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal of June, 1839, says of Dr. Cleaveland, "During the fifty years of his practice in Topsfield, few days, probably, passed when his opinion or assistance was not sought in some matter aside from his profession. There are few occurrences or questions incident to common life in regard to which he had not formed an opinion or could not give judicious advice."

Indeed, the mere fact that through so long a series of years, confidence continued undiminished, the oracle being consulted to the very last, proves that the responses had not been found unsafe or fallacious. The happy influences of so long a course of beneficent action are not to be estimated. How many quarrels have been arrested; how many lawsuits prevented; how much needless expense and trouble saved, in a thousand instances by the timely and unfeud advice of a judicious and peace-making neighbor.

Dr. Cleaveland was president of the Eastern Stage company in 1796. He was chairman of the first meeting of the company. In 1806 he bought an interest in it.

The study of a life like that of Dr. Cleaveland brings to mind the question sometimes raised, "Were the prominent men of former days the superiors of all men today?" There is much to be said on each side of the argument.

It is at once evident that no man today holds the relative position in Topsfield that Dr. Cleaveland filled. We are all aware that the minister in any parish is not now looked up to as was the case a hundred years ago. In town affairs a greater equality of influence prevails today than a generation since.

What, then, do these things prove? That there were giants in the earth in those days? Yea, verily. But has not the stature of the average man considerably increased mentally in two generations? Is there no significance in the fact that in Dr. Cleaveland's day only three papers were taken in Topsfield? And that his predecessor was able with only two books to solve all the intricate medical problems of his day? While with us every family has a treatise on medical practice, besides the abundant literature sown broadcast on matters of health and sanitary science by the prominent magazines and papers. Even the children in our common schools are instructed in physiology, while High school pupils are taught concerning germs, microbes and bacteria, to say nothing of the thousands of lives annually saved by Hood's Saracparilla, Greene's Nervura and all the rest who uphold the health of the people at large. Even if it is true that in by far the larger number of cases they save life, as the small boy said a pin saved the life of a man, and when pressed for particular, replied by his *not swallowing it*, yet as every one reads not only the local paper, but much on every subject of common interest, the effect must appear not only in greater general intelligence, but also in diminishing the distance between one man and another.

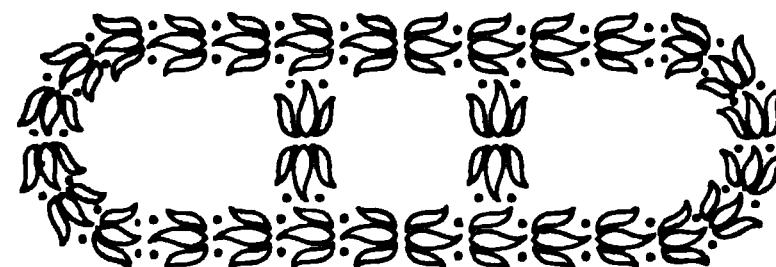
Many of us have noticed a single pine tree standing amid a growth of oak and maple. How it lifts itself above them! From what a distance it can be seen; sometimes a landmark for miles around. Yet the height of the tree is relative only. Measure it, and in a forest of pines many will equal it. So is it with men. Were the great men of the past placed among us today, they would not be so prominent as in their own day. The average is rising in wisdom, in understanding, and let us hope in character also.

We can believe that the present time and not any past century is the Golden age. What, then, is the lesson which we learn from the life of him of whom I have spoken to you tonight? This: he was endeared to his neighbors by kindly service, and is held in lasting remembrance for his good deeds and peaceful influence.

For such efforts all time and all places afford abundant opportunity. Let us remember, when medical skill is forgotten and recollection of legislative service has passed away, personal character and purity of life will remain. Hark! then, to this parting message:—

"Thou must be true thyself,  
If thou the truth would teach:  
It needs the influence of heart,  
To give the lips full speech."

Think truly, and thy thought  
Shall the world's famous feed;  
Speak truly, and each word of them,  
Shall be a fruitful seed;  
Live truly, and thy life shall be  
A great and noble creed."







**FRANCIS PEABODY'S GRIST MILL.**  
Benie B. Towhee of the 8th generation in direct descent from Francis Peabody is standing  
in the foreground.

## Francis Peabody's Grist Mill.

BY JOHN H. TOWNE.

In giving a history of the Peabody Mills of Topsfield, perhaps it would not be out of place at this time to give a short history of the man who conceived the idea of having them built.

By the records, Lieut. Francis Peabody was born in a small parish called St. Albans, Hertford County, England, in the year 1614. In 1635, at the early age of twenty-one years, having received a certificate of good character from the minister of his parish and been examined for emigration on April 6, 1635, he left his native country in the ship Planter, for the shores of New England.

After his arrival in this country it is thought by some that he lived a short time in what is now called the city of Lynn. In the following year 1636, by the records, he was living in Ipswich, in that part called Candlewood, where he continued to live until 1639. He then left Ipswich and moved to what is now Hampton, N. H. which he made his place of residence for eighteen years. During his stay there he was active and useful, serving the town for several years as one of its "Selected Men," so called.

He sold his house and land, situated near where the Baptist church now stands in Hampton, to Robert Drake, of Exeter, for £76-13s and in 1657 he moved to Topsfield, Mass., where he also continued to make himself useful. Probably at that time he was the best experienced man in town affairs there was in the place, and the Topsfield commoners were not slow in finding it out. A few months after his arrival here he was chosen to serve both as Selectman and Town Clerk, which offices he held for a great many years, as our records show.

At a lawful town meeting of the town of Topsfield on the 4th of March, 1664, the town, by vote, gave "liberty to Lieut. Francis Peabody to set up a grist mill and to flow so much of the town's common as is needful for a mill so long as the mill does stand and grind for the town."

Therefore, having liberty from the town by vote of its inhabitants, the grist mill was built by Lieut. Peabody the following year, according to a paper in my possession dated 1666, which says:—

"Peabody's mill is a mill established by grant of ye Town in 1665, on a main from Pye Brook and Baker's Pond." In proof whereof we have from the town records:—

"At a Lawfull Towne Meeting the 19th of March 1666—

Thomas perkins, ffrancis peabody and John Gould are Chosen to Vew and agree with Daniell Borman for a hie way between William Averiell house and mill threw his ground as they shall see most Convenyant. - - - - Voted." Thus it is shown conclusively that the mill was in existence in March, 1666.

Who can estimate the joy of the inhabitants at that early period of having a grist mill to accommodate them in the grinding of their rye and corn! It marked a new era in the history of the Topsfield commoners.

The mill was built on what was then called Pye Brook, running from what is now Lowe's Pond in Boxford and also from Baker's, afterwards Pritchard's, but what is now called Hood's Pond in Topsfield. This was the main stream, there being a lateral branch about a half mile above the mill running to Howlett's brook in the north east part of the town and concerning which, later on, there was great contention.

At a lawful town meeting the 7th of March, 1671, it was voted—"That the town is willing that Lieut. Peabody shall set up a saw mill provided it does not do damage to any of the towns-men in their meadows." The saw mill was built in 1672.

So far as I am able to learn, everything pertaining to these mills went along smoothly until the year 1691. At this date, the business increasing on account of the growth of the surrounding district, there was not suffi-

cient head of water during a part of the year to run the mills, the fall of water being slight between the lateral branch and the mills.

When the mill pond was half full, the water would be pressed back and turned down the lateral branch, there being quite a fall that way. As there was no mill at this time on Howlett's Brook, Mr. Peabody was granted the privilege of building a dam across this branch a few rods below its parting from the main stream, providing he pay satisfactory damages to the adjoining owners by reason of his flowing their meadows.

The records speak of damages being received the following year by Thomas Dorman and sons, who had in 1690 erected a house within a few rods of the parting of this brook,

By the way, this house was occupied for several years during the latter part of the 18th century by Asahel Smith, and here was born on July 12, 1771, his son Joseph, who was the father of the celebrated Joseph Smith, the noted founder of Mormonism in this country. The house, 185 years old, was torn down by Frank C. Frame in 1875 and another built on the same spot.

The amount said Dorman was to receive for damages on account of the dam being built was left by agreement to referees to decide, as follows:

"We whose names are underneath on Being chosen By mr Francis Peabody and Thomas Dorman senr and his sons Thomas Dorman junr and Jesse Dorman to value what Damage the said Dormans shall Receive the Present years Begining the 9th day of February 1692: and Ending the 9th of February 1700: By Reason of the said mr Pabodys flowing the Water by a dam for his Corne mill.

We say that according to the Best of our judgments the said Dормans are Damnified twenty shillins in their Grass and for stoping their out Lett to the Comon, and ten shilins for want of convenient watering of their Cattle, as Witness our hands at Topisfield July the 5th 1692.

Jonathan Putnam  
Joseph Byxba"

There was probably water power enough at the mills after the building of the dam as there are no papers showing the want of it for more than fifty years afterwards.

During the year 1698, after faithfully serving his day and generation, Lieut. Francis Peabody, the ancestor, passed away full of years and honors. By his will, dated Jan. 20, 1695, he gives his son, Isaac Peabody, the mills and mill-yard, the dwelling house by the mill and other property besides.

As Isaac Peabody owned the mills in Feb., 1700, when the old agreement made by Lieut. Peabody with Thomas Dorman on the flowage of land would expire, it became necessary for him to make further arrangements concerning it, which read as follows:—

'This agreement made this 6th day of February 1700 Between Sargt Thomas Dorman on the one Part and Isaac Peabody on the other part witnesseth, that for future Love & Amity between them, the said Isaac Peabody shall pay or cause to be paid to the said Dorman thirty shillings a year in money ten years from the date hereof, provided he keeps his mill Dam up, which said thirty shillings is in full for all Damages said Dorman sustains by said Peabodys mill Dam, and further it is agreed upon that the said Peabody shall have free liberty to raise the water from the last of September to the first of April yearly as high as needs for the use of the mill, which is to be done by a Sluise or Dam that now stands by the Bridge by said Dorman's New House which is on the brook that runs through said Dorman's meadow. And further it is agreed on that when Mr. Baker and said Dorman do send word to said Peabody together to lower the water for them that they may mow the meadow that is commonly flowed by the mill Dam the said Peabody is to lower the water such time as they may conveniently take off the Hay of said meadow. for the true performance of the above agreement we the aforesaid Sargt Dorman & Isaac Peabody do bind ourselves our Heirs Executors Adm's and

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self & two sons Jesse & Joseph Being present and he told us he would take out as fast as peabody put in—mr peabody jurn Came the same Day and Began to stop it again and I went Down and forbid him useing aney of my property to Stop said Brook or coming any more there with that Design—october the 12th mr Jacob peabody junr stopt the Brook again the same Day mr Benj hobbs cleared it—November the 3d mr peabody & son & mr Saml Brown come & filled up the mouth of the Hobbses Stream at the Crotch of said Brook with Large Stones on Each Side of the Wedth of 2 feet & 5 inches and Raised the Bottoin of said Brook about 5 inches from its usoual Debth with flat Stones—November 5th inessrs Abraham Benjn & David hobbs & Mr John Perkins junr came with 5 yoke of o'en and a Dragg to clear out the Stones again—I forbid them coming on to my land —Benjn hobbs Come to my house and Desired me to go with my two oldest sons with him and measure the Debth of water that Ran over the mud sill and Likewise the Debth of the Brook at the Crotch which I Did and we found the water that Ran over the mud sill  $2\frac{3}{4}$  Inches Deepe and at the Crotch of said Brook in hobbs Stream it was Eleven Inches Deepe and further saith not.

A Short memorandum

Asahel Smith "

Early in the year 1788, Jacob Peabody commenced an action of trespass against Abraham Hobbs for his digging out the brook and pulling down the dam, which was first erected in 1692 and most of the time maintained. "The suit was first brought before what was then called the 'Confession Act.' Mr. Hobbs appeared and disputed the demand."

Mr. Peabody had his case entered at the next Court of Common Pleas for Essex County.

I have the depositions of ten aged persons who testified as to the condition of Pye Brook and its lateral branch at the parting thereof, and also to the fact of the existence of a dam across said branch as they remembered it fifty years before, or between the years 1720 and 1740. These depositions were signed and sworn to before Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland, Justice of the Peace.

The names of these persons are as follows: Caleb Foster and Mrs. Mary Potter of Ipswich; John Smith of Boxford, who lived with Jesse Dorman, son of Thomas, in 1723, when 16 yrs old; Mrs. Hannah Chaplain of Rowley who lived with William Rogers in 1734 in said Dorman house; John Perkins of Topsfield, who lived with said Rogers in 1736; John Averill of Westminster, Vt., who lived with Mr. Rogers in 1738; Nathaniel Hood of Topsfield, probable owner of the Howlett Mills from 1746 to 1748; also John Bradstreet, Simon Gould and Thomas Baker, all of Topsfield.

According to the testimony of these witnesses, the dam was built betweed two small hills about two rods above a bridge over the brook in the following manner.

"A stick of timber was laid across the bottom of the brook and two studs set up one on each end, and tenanted into this stick of timber or mud-sill, so called, and a cap-piece mortised on the top of these studs."

The case was tried in two courts and exceptions filed thereon. Mr. Peabody then decided to carry it to the Supreme court. Before the sitting of this court, however, the owners of these two mills, probably finding that the lawyers were getting more out of it than they were from their mills, consulted together and decided to submit the case to the determination of referees. These referees, Nathaniel Lovejoy Esq., Mr. Moody Bridges and Captain Peter Osgood, viewed the premises and decided as follows:—

"At the beginning of that branch of said Pye Brook which runs to said Peabody's mill, at the parting of said brook suitable stones shall be laid in liue mortar in such a manner as to confine the channel of said branch within the compass of five feet, and this shall be done by the said Peabody, his heirs and assigns, at his and their expense within one year from the date of this report.

And at the beginning of the other branch of said brook which flows

from Pye Brook through Howlett's Brook so called, being a branch of said Pye Brook. Said Hobb's grist-mill, suitable stones shall in like manner be laid in fine mortar so as to confine the channel of said branch within the compass of three feet, and this shall be done by the said Hobbs, his heirs and assigns, at his and their expense within one year from the date of this report.

And we do further report that each and both of the said parties, their respective heirs and assigns, may at any time hereafter remove any obstructions that may be in their respective branches of said brook at any place therein, saving that the said Hobbs, his heirs and assigns, may not remove or cause to be removed a certain mud-sill, lying in and across the branch of said brook running to the said Hobb's grist-mill, about two rods above a bridge over the brook on the road facing by Asahel Smith's dwelling house and where a dam was formerly made, and that he, his heirs and assigns, shall forever keep and maintain a sill or bar in that place in same situation it now is, never to be sunk lower, nor shall he or they make any alteration in the bed or bottom of said brook by digging or lowering it from its present state from the parting of said brook to the aforesaid mud-sill.

Neither shall the said Peabody, nor his heirs and assigns, make any alteration in the bed or bottom of that branch of said brook, running to his said mill, within five rods of the said parting of said brook. Given under our hands this thirtieth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred eighty eight.

Nathaniel Lovejoy )  
Moody Bridges } Referees.  
Peter Osgood )

Accepted by the Court Apr. 1789.

Although more than a century has passed since this occurred yet it remains the same today.

It is a somewhat singular fact that after all the contention and strife between the owners of these mills, the proprietor of the Hobb's mill today, Mr. Wellington Donaldson, is a lineal descendant of Francis Peabody, the ancestor.

In 1801, Joseph and John Batchelder, owners of the Captain Thomas Baker farm at this date, brought suit against Jacob Peabody for the flowing of their meadows. The case was tried on the second Tuesday of November, 1801, at the Supreme Judicial court holden at Salem and they were awarded \$10.00 by the court for past damages, also said Peabody and his successors in ownership of the mills were to pay three dollars per year for damages in the future. This amount was paid every year until 1870, when it was stopped.

Jacob Peabody died Nov. 25, 1808 and by his will dated Feb. 16, 1804, he gave the mill with other property to his two sons, Jacob and John P. Peabody, in equal shares. These two brothers continued to run the mills up to the summer of 1824.

The grist mill at this time being very much out of repair, needing a new water-wheel, a set of mill stones, a new flume and several other things, it was thought best to tear it down and build anew. This was done in August and the new one, built on the same spot, was raised on Sept. 25, 1824. The work was done by Ezra Dodge and others from Beverly.

John P. Peabody took one half of the old original mill-stone for a door step, in which capacity it has served to the present day. The new mill-stones, weighing over three tons, were brought from Lynn, as the following bill will testify:—

Topfield, Oct. 9, 1824.

John P. Peabody to Nehemiah Perkins, Dr.

To myself and two yoke of oxen to Lynn to draw the millstones for the new mill. \$1.17

Received payment,

Nehemiah Perkins.

The cost of the new mill was \$452.08. The mills were run by the said

brothers until Feb. 14, 1829, up to which date they had been in the Peabody name for 164 years.

Now there happened an unusual occurrence, as the first change was made in the name of the owners. Jacob Peabody sold his farm and undivided half of the mills to Hon. Nathan Dane of Beverly, the deed being dated Feb. 14, 1829. Mr. Dane transferred the same to Samuel Bradstreet and Samuel Gould in common, June 16, 1831.

April 12, 1838. Samuel Bradstreet sold out his one fourth interest to Samuel Gould, who in turn sold out his one half interest of the mills to Jacob Towne, Sept. 14, 1841.

Widow Sophia Towne, as administratrix of the estate of Jacob Towne, conveyed to their son, J. Waldo Towne, this one half interest of the mills, April 2, 1845.

During all these years since Jacob Peabody in Feb. 14, 1829 had sold out half of the mills, John P. Peabody had continued running them, paying rent to the different owners of the undivided half sold by his brother Jacob.

In 1842, the old saw mill was taken down by Alfred P. Towne and used for firewood.

Considerable business must have been done at this mill as shown by the "Book of Accounts" which, over a century old, I have in my possession. I also have an old saw taken from the mill in 1792.

In Nov. 1, 1843 John P. Peabody sold his farm and his one half of the mill to his son-in-law, Benjamin B. Towne. At this date, one half of the mill had been in the Peabody name 178 years.

In 1848, the old Peabody House by the mill was torn down by A. Porter Kneeland and others. I was present on that occasion with many of the neighbors.

Some of the boards and timbers taken from this old house were used in the construction of the house erected near the spot by J. Waldo Towne in 1847. The house is now owned by George F. Pevear.

The mill was run by Benjamin B. and J. Waldo Towne until April 10, 1848, when they sold old to John McKenzie.

During his ownership, being a wheelwright, he made extensive repairs. The old reversible water-wheel, 16 feet in diameter, was taken out in 1850 and a new circular tub-wheel put in.

When putting in a foundation for this new wheel, Mr. McKenzie found an old Pine-tree shilling. This ancient coin was afterwards purchased by Dea. Joel R. Peabody and with some appropriate verses on the same written by Mrs. Peabody, his wife, was sent as a present to George Peabody the eminent banker of London, England. Mrs. Peabody received in return a present of a silver pitcher lined with gold.

In 1851, after making many repairs, Mr. McKenzie put in a corn cracker, for up to this time only clear grain had been ground. The putting in of this cracker marked a new epoch in the history of the mill. Not much corn was shelled after this as the great call seem to be for corn-and-cob meal.

Mr. McKenzie's health beginning to fail, he was assisted in his work by his son-in-law, John Boardman, Junior. The mill was run with good success until Aug. 1, 1854, when being still in poor health, Mr. McKenzie sold out to his son, Alfred McKenzie. As he was living in Danvers at the time he let out the mill on shares to Benjamin B. Towne, who ran it continuously with the assistance of George W. Brown, until April 1, 1870.

During this time the principal repairs were made in 1857, when a new bridge and flume were put in at a cost of \$117.00.

The passing of the mill property from the McKenzies into other hands was probably hastened by the following incident:

Mr. William Locke owned the property adjoining the mill-lot and desiring to make some improvements in front of his house and near the brook, he commenced to build a wall around a spring which was by the side of the brook.

While working on the same one pleasant afternoon in October, 1869, one of the McKenzie heirs happened to come along and asked the ques-

tion, "On whose land are you building your wall, Mr. Locke?" He replied in an indifferent manner as if he did not care, but it seems he afterwards looked at the deeds of his place and found that he was trespassing upon mill property.

Desiring to go on with his improvements, he began at once to negotiate for the purchase of the mill property, which was finally consummated March 19, 1870. Mr. Locke made some repairs to the mill, putting on a new rim to the water wheel and also substituting iron floats to the wheel in place of wooden ones.

During the first part of Mr. Locke's ownership, it was run by David Smith and B. Austin Perkins, and then by Mr. Locke himself until July 17, 1873, when he sold his place with mill property to John B. Perry of Somerville.

Mr. Perry run the mill with some success until he sold it to Mrs. Lisenetta Ham of Wakefield, Aug. 19, 1875. During her ownership it was run by John B. Perry, jr.

Mrs. Ham sold out to Mrs. Catharine Hanford of Lexington, Jan. 4, 1876. It was run during her ownership by her son, Clarence C. Hanford, who made some repairs on the same.

On the 27th of June, 1883, Mrs. Hanford's interest in the mill property was sold to Leon F. Chamecin of Boston, and on the second day of October, the same year, 1883, he sold out to Mrs. Teresa C. Carr, the present owner. The mill has not been run since 1892.

The most successful period of the mill's history was probably from 1551, the time of putting in the corn-cracker, to 1875, for during the civil war and some years afterwards, grain was very high, often bringing two dollars per bushel.

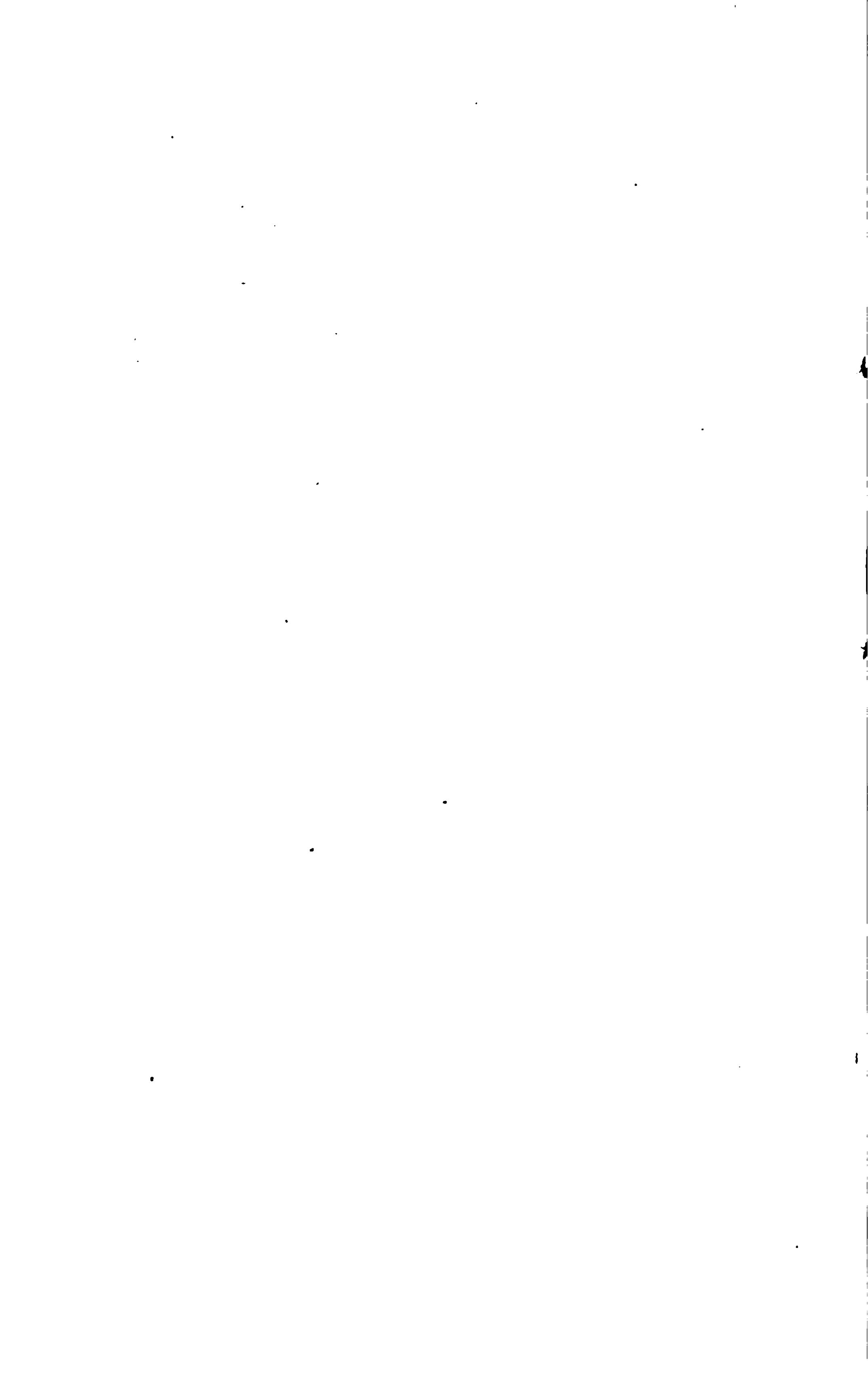
Many amusing incidents could be related in connection with this mill. Some people would come to the house and say in rather pleading tones, "I want to go to mill." Others would say, "I have come to get some meal ground." My parents have often spoken of a gentleman who occasionally came to mill from the Linebrook Parish. He generally drove in a two-wheel shay and when coming down the turnpike hill by our grove he would begin to cry out in stentorian tones, "Where is the miller?" "Where is the miller?" and he would keep it up more or less until he had arrived opposite the miller's house. If the miller was within an eighth of a mile of the scene of action he would be almost sure to hear the cry. Evidently the gentleman disliked to get out of his shay to call at the house for the miller.

The old mill stands to-day in quiet repose. No busy sound is heard save that of the ceaseless flow of the running brook, bringing to mind the truthful words of Tennyson:—

"For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on forever."

Let us contemplate the scene and ask the question, "Where in this town is there another landmark around which clusters so many memories of the past and where another spot on which a building has stood every year since 1665, or within forty-five years of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers?" And a few rods from this mill is the old historic spot where, in 1660, dwelt the only family in America by the name of Peabody, whose descendants today are numbered by the thousands.

Now, in conclusion, I will say that notwithstanding I have over seventy papers referring to these mills, some of which are more than two centuries old, handed down to me through six generations, or from Lieut. Francis Peabody, the ancestor, I have been very careful to give the subject due consideration in regard to facts and dates, thinking that probably this will be the only history that will ever be written of the old Peabody mills. One of them has been gone for more than half a century, and the other, unless repaired, will soon be a thing of the past, and these ancient landmarks will be obliterated forever, for it is not probable that the grist-mill will ever be rebuilt again, although the water power may be utilized for some other purposes in the long distant future.



# BAPTISMAL RECORDS

OF THE

## CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD

---

COMMUNICATED BY

GEO. FRS. DOW.

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SALEM, MASS.

AYLWARD & HUNTRESS, PRINTERS.

The Salem Press.

1895.



## BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD, 1727-1779.

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COMMUNICATED BY GEO. FRS. DOW.

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A List of most of y<sup>e</sup> children y<sup>t</sup> were baptized by severall ministers of y<sup>e</sup> Gospell during y<sup>e</sup> vacancy in y<sup>e</sup> church of Topsfield, y<sup>t</sup> is after the Death of y<sup>e</sup> Rev. Mr Joseph Capen, untill y<sup>e</sup> ordination of Mr John Emerson his successor.

The Rev. Mr Putnam, Pastor of a church in Reading, baptized

Joseph Towne	his	Sarah	Feb'y 26, 1726-7.
Samuell Smith	"	Susanna	" "
Samuell Howlet	"	William	" "
David Redington	"	Sarah	" "
Robert Perkins	"	Rebeckah	" "
Samuell Bradstreet	"	Sarah	" "
Samuell Curtice	"	Mary	" "
Jacob Reddington	"	<u>Daniel</u>	" "
Gideon Towne	"	Hannah	" "

## **2 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.**

**The Rev. Mr Prescot, of Salem, baptized**

<b>Samuell Towne</b>	<b>his Samuell</b>	<b>Aug. 27, 1727.</b>
<b>Francis Peabody</b>	<b>" Isaac</b>	<b>" "</b>
<b>Joseph Commins</b>	<b>" Moses</b>	<b>" "</b>
<b>Nathan Towne</b>	<b>" Amee</b>	<b>" "</b>

**y<sup>e</sup> Rev. Mr. Wigglesworth, of Ipswich Hamlet, baptized**

<b>Mark How</b>	<b>his Luce</b>	<b>Feb'y 25, 1727-8.</b>
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**y<sup>e</sup> Rev. Mr. Clark, of Salem village**

<b>Timothy Perkins</b>	<b>his Rebeckah</b>	<b>March 10, 1727-8.</b>
<b>John Wilds</b>	<b>" Amos</b>	<b>" "</b>
<b>Jonathan Perkins</b>	<b>" Hannah</b>	<b>" "</b>
<b>Richard Towne</b>	<b>" Thomas</b>	<b>" "</b>

**The Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Boxford**

<b>Jacob Perkins</b>	<b>his Abigail</b>	<b>March 31, 1728.</b>
<b>Aaron Estey</b>	<b>" Hannah</b>	<b>" "</b>

**The Rev. Mr. Prescot, of Salem**

<b>Daniel Towne</b>	<b>his Dorothy</b>	<b>Apriill 14, 1728.</b>
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**The Rev. Mr. Emerson, of Malden baptized**

<b>Benjamin Towne</b>	<b>his Jacob</b>	<b>June 9, 1728.</b>
<b>" "</b>	<b>" Joseph } twins</b>	
<b>Samuell Curtice</b>	<b>" Samuell</b>	<b>" "</b>
<b>Samuell Perkins</b>	<b>" Margaret</b>	<b>" "</b>

**The Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Boxford, baptized**

<b>Daniel Redington</b>	<b>his Sarah</b>	<b>June 23, 1728.</b>
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**The Rev. Mr. Wigglesworth, of Ipswich Hamlett**

<b>Samuell Robinson</b>	<b>his Hannah</b>	<b>August 18, 1728.</b>
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**The Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Boxford, baptized**

<b>Tobijah Perkins</b>	<b>his Annah</b>	<b>November 10, 1728.</b>
<b>John Abbot</b>	<b>" Elizabeth</b>	<b>" "</b>

**The Rev. Mr. Robert Ward, of Wenham, baptized**

<b>Matthew Peabody</b>	<b>his Ebenezer</b>	<b>October 1, 1727.</b>
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BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 3

Joseph y<sup>e</sup> son of Simon and Elizabeth Bradstreet was baptized June 25, 172[7] by y<sup>e</sup> Rev. Mr. Robert Ward of Wenham.

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The Church of CHRIST in Topsfield having made choice of Mr. John Emerson to be their Pastor sent Letters to Eight Churches to come and afford their assistance by yr Elders & messengers in ordaining of him to y<sup>e</sup> office of a Pastor over y<sup>m</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> Lord. accordingly on y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> Day of Nov<sup>br</sup> 1728 came y<sup>e</sup> Rev: Mr. John & Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Rogers Pastors of y<sup>e</sup> first church of CHRIST in Ipswich with their Delegates. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. John Rogers of Boxford. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Joseph Emerson of Malden. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Sam<sup>ll</sup> Wigglesworth of Ipswich Hamlett. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Peter Clark of Salem village and The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Robert Ward of Wenham w<sup>th</sup> their Delegates.

The solemnity began w<sup>th</sup> Prayer, Mr. Wigglesworth was y<sup>e</sup> mouth of y<sup>e</sup> Congregation.

Mr. Emerson of Malden preached from Mat. 4: 21-22. *And going on from thence He saw other two Brethren, James y<sup>e</sup> son of Zebedee & John his Brother, and He called y<sup>m</sup>, and they immediately left y<sup>e</sup> ship & yr Father and followed Him.*

Mr. John Rogers Sen<sup>r</sup>. Pastor of y<sup>e</sup> first chh: of Ipswich gave y<sup>e</sup> Charge.

Mr. John Rogers of Boxford gave y<sup>e</sup> right Hand of Fellowship.

Mr. Ward of Wenham prayed afterwards, a suitable psalm was y<sup>n</sup> sung, y<sup>e</sup> Blessing given and y<sup>e</sup> solemnity Concluded.

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Simon Bradstreet	his Mercy	Decem <sup>br</sup>	8, 1728.
William Kittery	" William	"	22,
Abraham Foster	" Amos	"	"
Luke Avery	" Ruth	"	"

**4 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.**

Jacob Peabody	his Elizabeth	Decem <sup>ber</sup>	29, 1728.
Abraham How	" Elizabeth	"	"
Matthew Peabody	" Mehetabell	"	"
Joseph Perkins	" Dorkas	January	5, 1729.
Simon Bradstreet		February	23,
Zacheus Perkins and		"	"
William Perkins, these upon their own account			
being of adult Age,		"	"
also y <sup>e</sup> children of			
Thomas & Mary Demcy their Mary		"	"
" " "	" Thomas	"	"
" " "	" Miriam	"	"
" " "	" Charles	"	"
Richard Town	his Mary	March	2,
Timothy Perkins	" Timothy	"	16,
Joseph Robinson	" Joseph	"	"
Robert Perkins	" Robert	"	"
Samuell Howlet	" Dan	"	"
Joseph Gould	" Daniel	"	30,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Jacob Averell	" Jacob	"	"
Joseph Towne	" Jonathan	April	20,
Joseph Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Jemima	"	"
David Cummins	" David	"	"
Mark Howe	" Mary	May	4,
John Gould	" Jacob	"	11,
Jacob Reddington	" Jacob	"	25,
John Prichard	" Paul	June	8,
Francis Peabody	" Daniel	"	"
Ephraim Smith	" Mary	"	"
John Cummings	" Sarah	"	"
Eliezer Lake	" Daniel	July	6,
John Wilds	" Mary	"	27,
Jonathan Wilds	" Nathanael	"	"
John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Stephen	"	"
Daniel Towne	" Thomas	August	24,
Micall Dwinell	" Thomas	September	7,
Nathan Towne	" Esau	"	28,
Michall Coffeen	" John	November	23,
" "	" Michall	"	"
Philip Towne	" Enos	December	7,
Josiah Kenney	" Mary	February	1, 1730.
John Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Icabod	"	15,
Miali Coffee	" Robert	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 5

Daniel Reddington	his Dorcas	March	15, 1730
Jonathan Perkins	" Jonathan	"	"
The widow Ann Averell		"	22,
Jacob Perkins	" Prudence	April	19,
John Bradstreet	" Sarah	May	17,
Timothy Perkins	" Nathan	June	7,
Joseph Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Archelaus	"	"
Joseph Dwinell	" George	"	28,
" "	" Joseph	"	"
" "	" Martha	"	"
" "	" Mary	"	"
" "	" Zechariah	"	"
" "	" James	"	"
John Towne	" John	July	5,
George Cowan	" Elizabeth	"	"
Margaret Perkins	her Jemima	"	"
John Prichard	his Sarah	"	19,
Luke Averell	" Mary	August	9,
Nathan Bixby	" Nathan	"	23,
Aaron Estey	" Mary	"	"
Israel Towne	" Elizabeth	"	"
Matthew Peabody	" John	September 13,	
Elizabeth, y <sup>e</sup> daughter of John and Elizabeth Emerson		"	20,
Thomas Potter	his Sarah	"	"
Joseph Peabody	" Joseph	October	4,
Gideon Towne	" Pheebe	"	"
Thomas Baker	" Thomas	"	25,
John Johnston	" Mary	"	"
Jacob Averell	" Daniel	December	6,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Daniel	January	24, 1731.
Joseph Perkins	" Mercy	"	31,
John Abbot	" Martha	February	14,
William Reddington	" Jonathan	"	"
David Commings	" Jonathan	March	21,
Israel Clark,	" Elijah	"	28,
Tobijah Perkins	" Daniel & } twins	April	18,
" "	" Edmund }		
Benjamin Towne	" Eli	"	"
Robert Perkins	" Amos	"	"
Samuel Perkins	" Samuel	"	"
Mark How	" Aaron	May	16,
Simon Braudstreet	" Mary	"	23,
William Meclure	" James	June	18,

## 6 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Curtice</b>	his Noah	June	<b>27, 1731.</b>
<b>Andrew Delrymple</b>	“ Mary	“	“
<b>Micall Dwiueill</b>	“ Sam <sup>ll</sup>	July	18,
<b>Jacob Clark</b>	“ Bathsheba	“	“
<b>Joseph Robinson</b>	“ Joseph	August	1,
<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Braudstreet</b>	“ Elijah	“	29,
<b>John Prichard</b>	“ David	“	“
<b>Jabez Towne</b>	“ Jabez	“	“
<b>Hannah Bowery</b>	her Hannah	September	5,
<b>Stephen Johnson</b>	his Ruth	“	12,
<b>John Peabody</b>	“ Jacob	December	19,
<b>John, ye son of John &amp; Elizabeth Emerson</b>		“	26,
<b>Joseph Gould</b>	his Elizabeth	“	“
<b>Thomas Perkins</b>	“ Enoch	“	“
<b>Nathan Whoood</b>	“ William	January	29, 1732.
<b>Jacob Dorman</b>	“ Jacob	February	6,
<b>Jacob Perkins</b>	“ Jacob	“	13,
<b>Richard Towne</b>	“ Elizabeth	“	“
<b>Joseph Towne Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	“ Jemima	“	“
<b>Jacob Averell</b>	“ Dorothy	“	27,
<b>Israel Towne</b>	“ Thomas	“	“
<b>David Commings</b>	“ Sam <sup>ll</sup>	March	5,
<b>Timothy Perkins</b>	“ Elizabeth	April	23,
<b>Israel Clark</b>	“ Israel	“	“
<b>Ephraim Wildes</b>	“ Thomas	June	4,
<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Howlett</b>	“ John	“	11,
<b>Jacob Reddington</b>	“ Dorcas	“	“
<b>Aaron Estey</b>	“ Isaac	“	25,
<b>Jonathan Perkins</b>	“ Juda	July	2,
<b>Thomas Gould Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	“ Thomas	“	28,
<b>Gideon Towne</b>	“ Abisha	August	13,
<b>Daniel Gould</b>	“ Ruth	“	“
<b>Mehetabell Dodge</b>	her Sam <sup>ll</sup>	“	20,
<b>Will<sup>m</sup> Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	his Will <sup>m</sup>	September	24,
<b>Dan Clark</b>	“ Mary	October	8,
<b>Josiah Kenney</b>	“ Asa	“	“
<b>John Gould</b>	“ Esther	“	15,
<b>Nathan Bixby</b>	“ Solomon	“	29,
<b>Joseph Perkins</b>	“ Icabod	December	10,
<b>John Perkins</b>	“ Moses	January	7, 1733.
<b>Thomas Howlet</b>	“ Alice	“	“
<b>John Towne Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	“ William	“	21,
<b>Luke Averell</b>	“ Moses	February	4,
<b>Robert Perkins</b>	“ Phebee	“	“

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 7

Rebeckah, y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of John and Elizabeth

Emerson		February 25, 1783.
Matthew Peabody	his Sarah	April 1,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet	" Eunice	" 29,
John Prichard	" Martha	" "
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Curtice	" Rachel	May 6,
Nathanael Curtice	" Priscilla	June 8,
Thomas Perkins	" Susannah	August 5,
Joseph Towne	" Eunice	" 26,
Stephen Johnson	" Rebeckah	September 28,
Benjamin Towne	" Susannah	October 7,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	" Mary	" "
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne	" Hannah	" 14,
Micall Dwinell	" Elisabeth	November 4,
Ephraim Wildes	" Jacob	" 11,
Ebenezer Curtice	" Abner	" "
Thomas Baker	" John	" 25,
Jacob Robinson	" Jacob	December 2,
Edmund Towne	" Edmund	" 9,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Boyd	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	" 16,
" "	" Ann	" "
" "	" John	" "
Nathan Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	" 28,
Jabez Towne	" Mary	" 30,
Daniel Gloyd, of adult age		February 8, 1784.
Dan Clark	his Daniel	" 10,
John Lampson Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Ruth	" "
Philip Towne	" Dinah	" 24,
Jacob Dorman	" David	March 3,
Mark How	" Mark	" 10,
Abraham Foster Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Ruth	" 17,
Jacob Perkins	" Luce	April 14,
Aaron Estey	" Abigail	May 5,
Israel Towne	" Archelaus	" 19,
William Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth	" "
Phineas Reddington	" Dorothy	June 2,
" "	" Ann	" "
" "	" Phineas	" "
John Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elijah	" "
Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Abner	" 9,
Nathan Towne	" Aaron	September 1,
Daniel Reddington	" Margaret	" 29,
David Cummings	" Anna	October 20,
Richard Towne	" Sarah	December 1,

## 8 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

<b>Jonathan Foster</b>	<b>his Affia</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>8, 1734.</b>
<b>Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Curtice</b>	<b>" Nathan<sup>ll</sup></b>	<b>"</b>	<b>15,</b>
<b>Jonathan Perkins</b>	<b>" Abigail</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>22,</b>
<b>Israel Clark</b>	<b>" Mercy</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>5, 1735.</b>
<b>Thomas, y<sup>e</sup> son of John and Elizabeth Emer-</b>			
<b>son</b>		<b>"</b>	<b>12,</b>
<b>Robert Perkins</b>	<b>his Martha</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Thomas Howlett</b>	<b>" Lydia</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>23,</b>
<b>Daniel Gould</b>	<b>" Daniel</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>6,</b>
<b>David Gould</b>	<b>" Edmund</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>20,</b>
<b>John Prichard</b>	<b>" Hannah</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>18,</b>
<b>Joseph Perkins</b>	<b>" Mary</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Joseph Peabody</b>	<b>" Dudley</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>29,</b>
<b>Abraham Reddington</b>	<b>" Abraham</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Jacob Averell</b>	<b>" Lydia</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>6,</b>
<b>Tobijah Perkins</b>	<b>" Jonathan</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>27,</b>
<b>Samuell Boyd</b>	<b>" Mary</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Jacob Robinson</b>	<b>" John</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Joseph Kneeland</b>	<b>" Edward</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>10,</b>
<b>Ruth Clough, of adult age, y<sup>e</sup> wife of Daniel</b>			
<b>Clough, and their child Elisabeth</b>		<b>"</b>	<b>17,</b>
<b>John Gould</b>	<b>his Amos</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>24,</b>
<b>Jacob Dorman</b>	<b>" Mercy</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>31,</b>
<b>Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Wood</b>	<b>" Luce</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>7,</b>
<b>" "</b>	<b>" Obadiah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Howlett</b>	<b>" Mary</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>14,</b>
<b>Joseph Hovey</b>	<b>" Joseph</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>12,</b>
<b>Amos Dorman</b>	<b>" Dudley</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Philip Kneeland Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Moses</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>26,</b>
<b>Jacob Reddington</b>	<b>" Pheebe</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>28,</b>
<b>John Town Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Deborah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Nathan Hood</b>	<b>" Mary</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>11, 1786.</b>
<b>Ebenezer Curtice</b>	<b>" Elizabeth</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Thomas Baker</b>	<b>" Symonds</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>18,</b>
<b>Mark How</b>	<b>" Abijah</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>1,</b>
<b>Luke Averell</b>	<b>" Ebenezer</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Solomon Gould</b>	<b>" Elisabeth</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Amos Dorman</b>	<b>" Amos</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>22,</b>
<b>John Averell</b>	<b>" Mary</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>14,</b>
<b>Thomas Dorman</b>	<b>" Judith</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Daniel Gloyd</b>	<b>" Daniel</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>21,</b>
<b>Nathanael Hood, of adult age</b>		<b>April</b>	<b>18,</b>
<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet</b>	<b>his Asa</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>25,</b>
<b>Ephraim Wildes</b>	<b>" Dorothy</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>2,</b>

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD 9

Phineas Reddington	his Sarah	May	2, 1786.
Benjamin Towne	" Edmund	"	9,
" "	" Ezra	"	"
" "	" Elijah	"	"
all which were born at one birth			
Jacob Perkins	his Lydia	"	"
Mary Dwinell, y <sup>e</sup> wife of John Dwinell		"	16,
Dan Clark	his Elijah	June	27,
Aaron Estey	" Esther	July	4,
Thomas Potter	" Thomas	"	11,
Will <sup>m</sup> Perkins	" Affia	"	18,
Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Asa	"	25,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	" Archelaus	August	8,
W <sup>m</sup> . Rogers	" Elizabeth	"	15,
Aaron Hubbard	" Mary	"	"
Philip Towne	" Daniel	"	29,
David Gould	" Sarah	September	5,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Curtice	" Eunice	"	12,
Micall Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Bartholomew	October	24,
" "	" Luce	"	"
" "	" Hannah	"	"
" "	" Micall	"	"
Mary, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John and Elizabeth Emerson			
W <sup>m</sup> Perkins	his Eunice	"	31,
Jacob Peabody Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Jacob	November	7,
Israel Clarke	" Sarah	"	21,
Israel Towne	" Israel	December	19,
Philip Kneland Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth	"	"
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter, Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mary	"	26,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Priscilla	January	2, 1787.
Joseph Kneland	" Timothy	February	27,
Thomas Howlett	" John	"	"
Robert Perkins	" Mehitabel	March	13,
Abraham Foster Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Abigail	April	3,
Joseph Herrick Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Nehemiah	May	1,
David Cummings	" Susannah	"	15,
Daniel Gould	" Lydia	June	5,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	12,
Jacob Robinson	" Mary	July	10,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Curtice	" Elijah	August	14,
Jacob Dorman	" Sarah	September	4,
Jonathan Perkins	" Dudley	"	11,
Jabez Towne	" Rebeckah	"	"

## 10 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Baptized Sarah Gallop a child upon y<sup>e</sup> account  
of Daniel Reddington who took her to bring  
up.

		September 18, 1787.
Joseph Peabody	his Elisabeth	" 25,
Y <sup>e</sup> widow Mary Kenney	her Josiah	October 2,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Howlett	his Davis	" 16,
Daniel Reddington	" Anna	" 23,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	" 30,
Nathan Hood	" Joanna	November 20,
John Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Asa	December 4,
Aaron Estey	" William	" 11,
Tohijah Perkins	" Mary	" 25,
Joshua Conant	" Jehodin	" "
Mark How	" Mark	January 1, 1788.
Richerd Towne	" Richerd	" "
Thomas Cummings	" Asa	" "
Jacob Peabody Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah	February 12,
Jonathan Foster	" Philemon	" 19,
Thomas Baker	" William	" 26,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Moulton	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	" "
Ephraim Wildes	" Thomas	March 12,
Jacob Perkins	" Joseph	" 19,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	" Sarah	" 26,
Jonathan Standley	" Abigail	April 2,
John Prichett	" Patience	" 30,
Amos Dorman	" Thomas	" "
Aaron Hubbard	" Lydia	May 14,
Jacob Reddington	" Eliphilet	June 11,
Edward, y <sup>e</sup> son of John & Elisabeth Emerson	July	16,
Solomon Gould	his Solomon	" 30,
Luke Averell	" Moses	August 13,
Rebeckah Smith	her John	" "
Thomas Dorman	his Thomas	" 20,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Putnam	" Elizabeth	September 10,
Jacob Dorman	" Damaras	October 8,
John Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Ruth	" 15,
Thomas Edwards	" Rice	" 29,
Jabez Town	" Jacob	November 12,
Phineas Reddington	" Phineas	" 19,
John Averell	" Abiel	" 26,
Jacob Robinson	" Elizabeth	January 7, 1789.
Thomas Cummings	" Lydia	February 4,
Ebenezer Curtis	" Hannah	" "
Israel Clark	" Sarah	" 11,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 11

Thomas Howlett	his Thomas	March	4, 1739.
Joseph Perkins	" Eunice	"	18,
Joseph Kneland	" Miriam	"	"
Daniel Reddington	" Daniel	"	25,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mary	"	"
Joseph Peabody	" Jacob	April	8,
Isaac Towne	" Lydia	"	22,
Elisha Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Joseph	"	"
Israel Towne	" Moses	May	6,
Wm. Perkins	" Elisabeth	"	19,
which was baptized at his own House, y <sup>e</sup> child being dangerously sick.			
Dan Clark	his Sam <sup>ll</sup>	June	8,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Esther	"	"
John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Timothy	"	17,
Robert Perkins	" Anna	"	24,
Aaron Estey	" Daniel	July	15,
Jacob Averell	" Mary	August	5,
Amos Dorman	" Daniel	"	"
Joseph Herrick Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Gideon	"	26,
Mark How	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	September	16,
David Cummings	" Elizabeth	"	30,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Moulton	" John	October	14,
baptized by Mr. Emerson of Malden.			
Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Mary	November	11,
Thomas Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elijah	"	25,
Richard Towne	" Hannah	December	16,
John Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Susannah	"	28,
John Lampson Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Robert	January	6, 1740.
Jonathan Foster	" Apphia	"	18,
Nathan Hood	" Nathan	"	"
Joshua Conant	" Pelutiah	"	20,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Vashti	February	10,
Dorcas, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John and Elisabeth Emerson			
Joseph Baker	his Mehetabel	March	9,
Isaac Towne	" Eunice	"	"
Jonathan Treadwell	" Martha	"	30,
Joseph Dorman	" Nathanael	April	6,
Jonathan Stanley	" Mary	"	20,
Luke Averell	" Isaac	June	8,
Jonathan Perkins	" Philemon	"	15,
Aaron Hubbard	" Elnathan	"	"
Ephraim Wildes	" Moses	August	8,

## 12 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

**Joseph Curtis, Jun<sup>r</sup>, of adult age, and his child**

Solomon.		August	10, 1740.
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Howlett	" Miriam	"	24,
Thomas Andrus Jun <sup>r</sup>	" David	September	14,
Jacob Dorman	" Susannah	"	21,
Joseph Hovey	" Abigail	"	"
Jabez Towne	" Elijah	"	"
Joseph Cummings, Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	28,
Thomas Dorman	" Elizabeth	October	5,
Dan Clark	" Dan	"	19,
John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Daniel	November	16,
Jacob Dwinell	" Israel	"	"
Eleazer Gould	" Eleazer	January	4, 1741.
Thomas Goodhall	" Joseph & } twins	"	"
" "	" Benjamin }	"	"
Jacob Robinson	" Zacheus	"	18,
Jacob Perkins	" Zebulon	"	25,
Solomon Gould	" Nathanael	February	1,
Cornelius Balch	" Mary	March	15,
Israel Clark	" Samuel	"	22,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Phebe	April	5,
Jacob Peabody Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Elisha Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Bartholomew	"	12,
Thomas Cummings	" Thomas	"	"
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Curtis	" John	"	19,
Joseph Perkins	" Huldah	"	"
Philip Neeland Jun <sup>r</sup>	" David	"	"
John Prichard	" Priscilla	"	26,
John Marshall	" Elizabeth	May	10,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood	" Abigail	"	24,
Thomas Baker	" Joseph	"	31,
John Batcheller	" Anna	June	14,
Mark How	" Philemon	"	28,
Thomas Edwards	" Rachel	"	"
Aaron Estey	" Esther	July	5,
Amos Dorman	" Daniel	"	12,
John Balch	" David	"	"
Stephen Foster	" Stephen	"	19,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Curtis	" Flora	"	"
<b>a negro servant child</b>			
Simon Gould	his Moses	"	26,
W <sup>m</sup> Perkins	" William	August	2,
Joseph Herrick Jun <sup>r</sup>	" William	"	"
Isaac Towne	" Isaac	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 13

Deborah, a Negro servant woman belonging to Joseph Herrick, and		August	9, 1741.
Katharine, a Negro servant maid belonging to Joseph Porter: and		"	"
Enos, a child son of said Deborahs and her husband Sharper, a Negro man servant to Sam <sup>ll</sup> Gott of Wenham		"	"
Mical Holdgate his Asa		October	4,
" " " Hannah		"	"
Thomas Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup> " Eunice		"	25,
Joseph Dorman " Ephraim		November	15,
Nathan Hood " Daniel		"	"
John Dodge " Eunice		"	22,
Abigail, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John and Elizabeth Emerson		December	20,
Mical Holdgate his Mary		January	24, 1742.
Simon Bradstreet Jun <sup>r</sup> " Henry		February	14,
Jacob Estey " Anna		"	28,
David Towne " Abigail		March	7,
Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup> " Mercy		"	21,
Thomas Howlett " Ammiruhamah		"	"
Jonathan Standley " Sam <sup>ll</sup>		"	"
John Balch " John		April	4,
Jonathan Foster " Jemima		"	18,
Ebenezer Curtis " Stephen		"	25,
Jeremiah Towne " Elisabeth		May	16,
Joseph Curtice Jun <sup>r</sup> " Ruth		"	"
Aaron Hovey " Stephen		"	"
Ruth Dodge her Mary		"	23,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith Jun <sup>r</sup> his Susanna		"	30,
Seabrew, a Negro servant man belonging to Sam <sup>ll</sup> Pearley and		June	20,
Dinah, a negro servant child belonging to Thomas Howlett		"	"
Amos Hood, of adult age		"	27,
John Hood, of adult age		"	"
Ezekiel Potter his Thomas		"	"
Jacob Averell " Priscilla		July	4,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Pearley " Sam <sup>ll</sup>		August	15,
Jacob Peabody Jun <sup>r</sup> " John		October	8,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Potter Jun <sup>r</sup> " Jeremiah		"	17,
Titus, a Negro servant child belonging to Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins		"	"
Doctor Richard Dexter his Mehetabel		November	7,

## 14 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Eleazer Gould	his Elisabeth	November 14, 1742.
Joseph Hovey	" Mary	" 21,
Thomas Andrews	" Jonathan	" 28,
Benjamin Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	of adult age	January 16, 1743.
W <sup>m</sup> Rogers	his W <sup>m</sup>	February 6,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Daniel	" "
Elisha Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Thomas	" 20,
Jacob Perkins	" Elisha	March 6,
Jacob Robinson	" Dorothy	" 13,
Luke Averell	" Elijah	" 20,
Israel Clark	" Bathsheba	April 10,
Cornelius Balch	" Martha	" "
Abraham Hobbs	" Isaac	" 24,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Curtis	" Rebeckah	May 15,
Thomas Baker	" Sarah	" 29,
Thomas Symonds	" Ruth	" "
Solomon Gould	" Lydia	June 19,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah	" "
Ephraim Wildes	" Ephraim & } twins	" 26,
" "	" Elijah	
Mary Barall, of adult age		August 7,
Joseph Peabody	his Priscilla	" 21,
Ann Wallis, of adult age		September 4,
Joshua Conant	his Jerusha	" 11,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Potter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Hannah	" "
Jeremiah Towne	" Jeremiah	" 18,
Jonathan Perkins	" Sarah	" 25,
Aaron Hubbard	" John	October 2,
Ezekiel Potter	" Ezekiel	" "
David Cummings	" Jonathan	" 16,
John Batcheller	" John	" 30,
Thomas Edwards	" Huldah	November 18,
Joseph Cummings	" Abigail	" "
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Pearley	" John	" 27,
Isaac Towne	" Asa	December 4,
Ellhu, y <sup>e</sup> son of John and Elisabeth Emerson		" 25,
Nathan Hood	" Mary	January 8, 1744.
John Dodge	" Abel	" "
Stephen Foster	" Nathanael	" 15,
Mark How	" Hepsibah	" 22,
Daniel Bixby	" Elisabeth	" "
Jonathan Stanley	" John	February 5,
Eleazer Gould	" Zacheus	" 12,
John Symonds	" John	" 26,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 15

Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Asahel	March	11, 1744.
Aaron Hovey	" Moses	"	18,
John Bradstreet	" Elizabeth	"	"
David Towne	" David	"	25,
John Balch	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Isaac Perkins	" Mary	"	"
Jabez Town	" Abigail	April	1,
Micall Holdgate	" Sarah	"	15,
Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Dorcas	May	18,
John Prichard	" John	"	20,
Zilpah, a Negro Child of Sharper and Deborah his wife, Negro Servants		"	"
Jacob peabody Jun <sup>r</sup> his Eunice		"	27,
Zilpah, y <sup>e</sup> child of Sharper and Katherine his wife, Negro Servants		"	"
W <sup>m</sup> Rogers his Deborah		June	3,
Simon Gould " Hannah		"	10,
and after publick Exercise went to y <sup>e</sup> House of Thomas Dwinell, and baptised Ruth y <sup>e</sup> child child of y <sup>e</sup> widow Susanna Dwinell, y <sup>e</sup> child not being able to be brot to y <sup>e</sup> Meeting House		"	"
Divers of y <sup>e</sup> chh: were present			
John Le Favour his Mary		"	17,
Ephraim Wildes " Mary		"	24,
Thomas Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup> " Jacob		July	8,
Joseph Perkins " Joseph		"	22,
Jacob Dwinell " Jacob		August	12,
Jonathan Foster " Olive		"	26,
John Perkins, Third " Elizabeth		"	"
Thomas Howlett " Alice		September	9,
W <sup>m</sup> Perkins " Oliver		October	21,
Dan Clark " Dan		November	25,
Matthew Peabody " Seth		December	2,
Ephraim Kimball Jun <sup>r</sup> " Sam <sup>ll</sup>		"	16,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun <sup>r</sup> " Nathan <sup>ll</sup>		January	6, 1745.
Thomas Symonds " Anna		"	"
Joseph Curtis Jun <sup>r</sup> " Sam <sup>ll</sup> & } twins		"	20,
" " " Mary			
David Cummings " Stephen		"	27,
Elisha Towne Jun <sup>r</sup> " Mercy		February	24,
Simon Bradstreet " Philip		March	3,
Simon Bradstreet Jun <sup>r</sup> " Ann		April	7,
Jacob Perkins " Elisha		"	14,
Cornelius Balch " Joseph		"	"

## 16 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Low	his Jonathan	April	21, 1745.
Hannah, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John and Elizabeth Emerson		May	19,
Nehemiah Abbot	his Elisabeth	"	"
Abraham Hobbs	" Jacob	June	16,
George Start	" Sarah	July	7,
Jeremiah Towne	" Susanna	"	14,
John Symonds	" Mary	"	21,
John Balch	" Robert	"	28,
Israel Clark	" Jacob	August	11,
Ezekiel Potter	" Sarah	September	1,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Howlett Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Daniel Bixby	" Ruth	October	6,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Pearley	" Nathaniel	"	13,
John LeFavour	" Rachel	"	"
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Susanna	November	3,
John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Jethro	"	24,
Jonathan Stanley	" Joseph	December	22,
John Bradstreet	" Priscilla	January	12, 1746.
Joseph Cummings Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Joseph	"	19,
Aaron Estey	" Aaron	February	2,
Nathan Hood	" Joseph	"	16,
Ebenezer Curtice	" Ephraim	"	"
Elisha Cummings	" Mary	"	"
Solomon Gould	" John	"	28,
Stephen Foster	" Abigail	March	2,
Eleazer Gould	" John	"	16,
Thomas Edwards	" Sarah	"	30,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Low	" Susanna	"	"
Elijah Porter	" Anna	April	20,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Pheebe	May	18,
Joseph Perkins	" Elisha	"	25,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Baker	" Mary	June	8,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Benjamin	"	"
Sharper a Negro Servant man	" Charles	"	"
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Potter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Daniel	"	15,
Eleazer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Lydia	July	13,
Jacob Dwinell	" John	"	27,
Simon Gould	" Jane	August	3,
Aaron Hovey	" Sarah	"	"
John Symonds	" Mary	September	7,
David Town	" Archelaus	"	"
Joseph Cummings	" Sarah		14,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 17 .

Thomas Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Susanna	September 14, 1746.
Israel Herrick	" Joseph	" 28,
Isaac Perkins	" John	October 5,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Phippen	" Mercy	" 12,
" "	" Mary	" "
" "	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	" "
" "	" Joseph	" "
Dorothy, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John and Eliz <sup>bth</sup> Emer- son		" 19,
Isaac, y <sup>e</sup> son of —— and Katharine his wife Negro Servants		" 26,
Ephraim Kimball Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Hannah	November 9,
John Boardman	" Elizabeth	" 28,
John Prichard	" Ruth & { twins	December 7,
" "	" Lydia	
Ephraim Wildes	" Hepzibah	" . "
Robert Smith	" Elijah	" "
Joshua Conant	" Lot	" 28,
Thomas Symonds	" Hannah	" "
Benja <sup>m</sup> Bixby	" Benjamin	January 4, 1747.
John Perkins Third	" John	February 8,
Joseph Dorman	" Abigail	" 23,
Cornelius Balch	" Elizabeth	" "
Jacob Averell	" Amos	March 29,
George Starte	" William	" "
John Balch	" Hannah	" "
Nehemiah Abbot	" Eleanor	April 5,
Daniel Bixby	" Mary	" 12,
John Le Favour	" John	" 15,

which was baptized at his House, on a week  
Day, y<sup>e</sup> child being Dangerously sick, & ex-  
pired soon after its Baptism.

Jabez Towne	his Ruth	May	3,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Averell Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	10,
Eleazer Curtice	" Lydia	"	17,
Zebulun Wildes	" Molly	"	24,
Micall Holdgate	" Priscilla	July	5,
Zebulun Wildes	" Peggy	"	12,
Anthony Potter	" Susanna	"	19,
Joseph Cummings Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Jonathan	"	26,
Jacob Perkins	" Abel	August	9,
Abraham Hobbs	" Joseph	"	28,

## 18 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Rebeckah and Ceesar two Negro Servant  
children belonging to Sam<sup>ll</sup> Perkins, whose  
wife a Member of y<sup>e</sup> chh: Engaged for y<sup>e</sup>  
Children.

			August 30, 1747.
Elisha Cummings	his John		September 13,
Matthew Peabody	" Isaac		October 4,
W <sup>m</sup> . Conant	" W <sup>m</sup> .		" 11,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Pearley	" Ruth		November 8,
Daniel Cummings	" Lucy		" 15,
Elisha Towne, Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah		December 13,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Phippen	" Hannah		" "
Joseph, son of John & Elizabeth Emerson			" 20,
Ezekiel Potter	his Nathan <sup>ll</sup>		January 3, 1748.
Israel Herrick	" Israel		" "
Israel Clark	" David		" 10,
Jonathan Standley	" Jedidiah		February 7,
John Le Favour	" John		March 27,
Nathan Hood	" Benjamin		April 3,
John Symonds	" Joanna		" "
Joseph Peabody	" Peggy		" 17,
Richard Gould	" John		May 1,
Jacob Dwinell	" Mehetabel		" 8,
Sharper a Negro serv <sup>t</sup>	" Charles		June 5,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Potter	" Prudence		July 17,
Jacob Dresser	" Molly		" 31,
Eliezer Gould	" Huldah		August 7,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Howlett Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth		" 21,
Aaron Estey	" William		" 28,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Abigail		September 25,
Robert Smith	" Elisha		October 9,
John Pricherd	" Mary		" 16,
Jeremiah Towne	" Nehemiah		" 23,
John Boardman	" John		November 6,
John Perkins Third	" Daniel		" 13,
Mical Coffeen	" Mary		" 20,

But y<sup>e</sup> Child was baptized upon y<sup>e</sup> account  
of Eliezer Lake & his wife, y<sup>e</sup> grand Parents,  
who took it as y<sup>r</sup> own.

Joseph Hovey	his Joseph		" 20,
James Andrews	" John		" 27,
George Starte	" George		December 18,
Stephen Gould	" Stephen		" "
John Bradstreet	" Molly		" 25,
Cornelius Balch	" Cornelius		" "

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 19

Joshua Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Sarah	December, 18, 1748.
Ebenezer Averell	" Ruth	January 1, 1749.
Elijah Porter	" Bettey	" 22,
John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Esther	" 29,
Elisha Cummings	" Andrew	February 13,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Foster	" Elijah	March 5,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Symonds	" Jacob	April 16,
Richard Gould	" Susanna	" "
Aaron Hovey	" Dorcas	" 28,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mercy	May 7,
Ephraim Wildes	" Hannah	" 14,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Pearly	" Enoch	" 21,
David Town	" Joseph	" "
Eliezer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Lydia	" "
Simon Gould	" Lucy	" 28,
Cap <sup>t</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Baker	" Jonathan	July 2,
Joseph Cummings	" Martha	" "
Joshna Balch	" Joshua	" "
Zachariah Dwinell	" Betty	" "
Stephen Foster	" Jacob	" 30,
W <sup>m</sup> Conant	" Elizabeth	" "
Tho <sup>s</sup> Dwinell	" Stephen	August 6,
David Cummings	" Daniel	September 8,
John Le Favour	" Annah	" "
Mical Holdgate	" Mary	" "
Jacob Robinson	" Sarah	" 17,
Nehemiah Abbot	" John	" "
Ephraim Kimball Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Ezra	" "
Eliezer Gould	" Elizabeth	" 24,
John Gould	" John	October 8,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth	" 22,
John Symonds	" Joseph	" 29,
John Hale	" Elizabeth	November 12,
Abner Hale	" David	December 3,
Joseph Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Jonathan	" 17,
Abraham Hobbs	" Benjamin	" 31,
Jonathan Stanly	" Joseph	January 28, 1750.
Stephen Gould	" Hannah	February 11,
Eleazer Curtis	" Sarah	March 4,
Eleazer Killam	" Sarah	" "
Jabez Town	" Susanna	April 1,
Nathan Hood	" Elizabeth	" 22,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Phippen	" Mehetabel	" "
Joseph Curtis	" Pheebe	" 29,
Widow Conant	her Joshua	" "

## 20 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Zebulun Wildes	his Zebulun	May	27, 1750.
John Baker	" Mary	June	10,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Averell, Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Hannah	August	19,
James Andrews	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Joseph, son of John and Elizabeth Emerson		September	9,
Stephen Emery	his John	October	7,
Joshua Balch	" Archelaus	"	14,
y <sup>e</sup> ordinance administered privately y <sup>e</sup> child being Judged dangerously sick.			
Matthew Peabody	his Deborah	October	28,
John Pricherd	" Huldah	"	"
Elijah Foster	" Elizabeth	"	"
Joshua Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Jacob	December	30,
James Curtis Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Hannah	January	20, 1751.
Jeremiah Towne	" William	February	3,
John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mary	"	"
Richerd Marshell Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Richerd	"	10,
Jacob Dwinell	" Ruth	"	17,
Retiah Bacon	" Jacob	"	"
George Starte	" John	"	"
John Hood	" Richerd	March	3,
Joseph Symonds Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mehetabel	"	24,
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bayly	" Elizabeth	"	"
Daniel Bixby	" Daniel	April	21,
John Boardman	" Mary	"	28,
Elisha Cummings	" Isaac	"	"
Thomas Foster	" Allen	"	"
Elijah Porter	" Thomas	May	5,
Widow Buzzell, her two children			
	Ruth	"	12,
	John	"	"
John Gould	his Benj <sup>m</sup>	"	19,
Robert Smith	" Thomas	June	9,
John Bradstreet	" Mehetabel	"	16,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Baker	" David	"	30,
Joseph Cummings Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Hannah	"	"
Tho <sup>s</sup> Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Andrew	July	14,
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bixby	" Anne	"	"
Tamar, a negro Servant child belonging to Eli- jah Porter, who Engaged to bring it up in y <sup>e</sup> Christian Religion			
David Cummings Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Ebenezer	"	21,
Thomas Dwinell	" Thomas	"	28,
David Cummings Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth	September	22,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 21

Benj <sup>m</sup> Woodbury	" Elizabeth	October	20, 1751.
Aaron Hovey	" Huldah	"	27,
John Le Favour	" Robert	Nov <sup>m</sup>	8,
Eliezer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Eliezer	"	"
Joseph Hale 8 <sup>d</sup>	" Sarah	"	17,
Jonathan Stanley	" Hannah	December	8,
Ebenezer Averell	" Ebenezer	"	22,
Abraham Hobbs	" David	January	12, 1752.
David Towne	" Archelaus	"	"
Amos Wildes	" Mary	Februaay	9,
Nathan Hood	" Mehetabel	March	29,
Widow Lucy Perkins	her Elisha	"	"
Stephen Gould	his Elijah	April	5,
Jenny, a Negro Servant Child belonging to y <sup>e</sup> widow Lucy Perkins, who publickly and solemnly Engaged to bring up s <sup>d</sup> child in y <sup>e</sup> Christian Religion		May	24,
John Pricherd	his Eunice	June	7,
Abner Hale	" Amos	"	"
Simon Gould	" Huldah	"	14,
John Lampson 8 <sup>d</sup>	" Anna	"	"
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Low	" Amos	"	28,
Tho <sup>o</sup> Symonds	" Hepsibah	July	5,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Smith	" Anna	"	"
David Cummings	" Archelaus	"	12,
John Baker	" Priscilla	"	"
Joseph Curtis	" Lydia	August	28,
Tho <sup>o</sup> Baker Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Tho <sup>o</sup>	"	30,
Asa Pearley	" Daniel	October	1,
James Andrew	" Robert	"	15,
Jacob Gould	" Jacob	"	"
Joseph Symonds Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	22,
W <sup>m</sup> oyles	" Lydia	"	"
Joseph Browne	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	November	5,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Thomas	"	19,
Joseph Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth	December	10,
Eliezer Gould	" Rebekah	January	7, 1753.
Samson, a Negro Serv <sup>t</sup> man belonging to Doct <sup>r</sup> Dexter, was baptized		"	21,
John Creed, of adult age		"	28,
John Boardman	" Daniel	February	4,
Tho <sup>o</sup> Moore	" Mary	"	"
Tho <sup>o</sup> Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elisha	"	11,
John Creed	" Joseph	"	"

**22 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.**

Cap <sup>t</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Baker	his Rebeckah	February	18, 1753.
Israel Averell	" Eunice	"	25,
John Bradstreet	" Huldah	"	"
John Peabody	" Lucy	April	8,
Lydia Dwinell, of adult age		"	15,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Foster	his Abigail	"	22,
John Clarke	" Hannah	"	29,
David Perkins	" Ezra	"	"
Joshua Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Lucy	May	20,
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bixby	" Sarah	"	27,
Benj <sup>m</sup> Woodbury	" Daniel	"	"
Eleazer Curtis	" Betty	June	8,
Cornelius Waldo, son of John & Elizabeth Emerson		"	10,
Jacob Curtis	his Jacob	"	17,
Joseph Perkins	" Jacob	"	24,
Jacob Gould	" Richerd	"	"
Jonathan Towne	" Jonathan	"	"
Amos Wildes	" Lois	July	22,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Gould	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	29,
Mical Holdgate	" Sarah	August	5,
Ebenezer Killem	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Tho <sup>s</sup> Edwards	" Abraham	"	12,
Joseph Edwards	" Andrew	"	"
David Balch Jun <sup>r</sup>	" David	"	26,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Phippen	" Sarah	September	16,
Jonathan Foster	" Jonathan	"	23,
Joseph Cummings Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mary	"	"
Robert Perkins	" Ruth	October	7,
Zebulun Wildes	" Mercy	"	14,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Dwinell	" Amos	November	4,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Hannah	"	"
John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth	"	18,
David Pricherd	" Dolly	"	25,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Smith	" Jacob	December	2,
Deacon Daniel Gould	" Daniel	"	9,
Thomas Perkins	" Thomas	"	"
Joseph Gould	" Joseph	"	"
Daniel Lake	" Daniel	January	27, 1754.
Richard Marshall	" Jemima	February	17,
John Gould	" Esther	March	17,
Micall Holdgate	" Hannah	"	"
Stephen Gould	" Stephen	"	24,
Philip Neeland Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Aaron	"	31,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 23

Abraham Hobbs	his Jonathan	March	31, 1754.
John Bradstreet	" Huldah	April	21,
John Le Favour	" Thomas	"	"
Aaron Hovey	" Tho"	"	28,
David Towne	" Eunice	May	19,
Joseph Hale 3d	" Mary	"	26,
Elijah Porter	" Sarah	June	9,
Nathan Hood	" Susanna	"	23,
John Lampson 3d	" Elizabeth	July	7,
Joseph Symonds Junr	" Joseph	August	11,
Jacob Dwinell	" Pheebe	"	18,
Sarah, wife of Luis Andrews, baptized LORDS Day Evening in her own House at her re- peated Request, She appearing on y <sup>e</sup> Brink of Eternity and giving Christian Satisfaction		September 15,	
Elisha Cummings	his Elisha	"	29,
Jacob Curtice	" Stephen	"	"
Eliezer Lake Junr	" Sarah	October	6,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Low	" Molly	"	18,
Edmund Putnam	" Israel	Nov <sup>m</sup>	17,
Thomas Moor	" Abigail	December	8 <sup>th</sup>
John Hale	" Mehetabel	February	9, 1755.
Jacob Gould	" Ruth	"	"
David Balch Junr	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	16,
Amos Wildes	" Amos	"	"
Moses Perkins	" Moses	"	"
Dc <sup>n</sup> Daniel Gould	" Elisha	"	23,
Asa Pearley	" Henry	"	"
John Cree	" Asa	"	"
W <sup>m</sup> Stickney	" Eunice	March	2 <sup>d</sup> ,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne Junr	" Richerd	"	16,
Joseph Magery (also Majory)	" Sarah	"	"
Jeremiah Gallop, of adult age		"	"
Tho <sup>o</sup> Foster	his Ebenezer	April	6,
John Clark	" Mary	"	18,
Jonathan Foster	" Moses	"	"
Ebenezer Averell	" David	"	"
Eli Towne	" Elizabeth	"	20,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Smith	" Miriam	"	27,
Benjamin Woodbury	" Aaron	May	4,
Paul Pricherd	" Amos	"	11,
" "	" Jeremiah	"	"
Daniel Black	" Abigail	"	"

## 24 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

w <sup>b</sup> Baptisms (preceding three) w <sup>r</sup> administered in Boxford Meeting House 1 <sup>st</sup> Chh :			
Robert Perkins	his Hannah	June	1 <sup>st</sup> , 1755.
Joseph Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Deborah	"	8 <sup>th</sup> ,
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bayley	" Mary	"	"
James Andrews	" James	"	15 <sup>th</sup> ,
Thomas Baker Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah	"	"
Israel Herrick	" Elizabeth	"	"
Archelaus Dwinell	" Archelaus	"	29 <sup>th</sup> ,
Peter Robinson	" Sarah	"	"
" "	" John	"	"
Ebenezer Killem	" Hannah	July	13,
Enoch Perkins	" John	"	20,
Isaac Perkins	" Robert	"	27,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins, Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah	August	24,
George Dwinelles Child, upon y <sup>e</sup> account of his grand Parents		September 28,	
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Phippen	his Ruth	November 9,	
Joseph Cummings Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Jonathan	"	"
Simon Gould	" Simon	"	16,
Israel Davis	" Hannah	"	23,
John Le Favour	" Lydia	December 7,	
David Pricherd	" Eli	"	"
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins	" William	"	14,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Mical	"	"
Cap <sup>t</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Baker	" Martha	"	21,
William Gallop, of adult age and s <sup>d</sup> Gallop's Children, viz,	Susanna	"	"
	Rebekah	"	"
	Hepsibah	"	"
	William	"	"
	Mary	"	"
	Love	"	"
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Tapley and Abiel his wife, and Sam <sup>ll</sup> their youngest Son		"	28,
John Baker	his John	January	4 <sup>th</sup> , 1756.
Timothy Dorman	" Eunice	"	"
Huldah Tapley		"	"
Alexander Tapley } of adult age		"	"
Hannah Marstin		"	"
Elijah Porter	his Dorothy	"	11,
Isaac Perkins	" Isaac	"	"
Tho <sup>s</sup> Andrew	" Lucy	"	18,
Joseph Gould	" Daniel	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 25

Jabez Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Lydia	January 18, 1756.
Mary Cree		
Sarah Cree		
Phebee Towne		
Alice, an Indian woman	of adult age	" "
Eliezer Curtis Jun <sup>r</sup>		" 20,
one week Day & in a private House, he being sick.		
John Bradstreet	his Sarah	February 1 <sup>st</sup> ,
Prudence Towne		
Anna Towne &	of adult age	" "
Francis Towne		
John Boardman	his Eunice	February 8 <sup>th</sup> ,
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bixby	" Dudley	" 29,
W <sup>m</sup> . Gallop	" Elizabeth	March 7,
Molly Hood, a child, upon Joseph Hovey & wifes account, who engaged to bring her up in ye christian Religion.		March 28,
Archelaus Dwinell	his Amos	" "
Archelaus Rea	" John	April 4,
" "	" Archelaus	" "
Jonathan Towne	" Esther	" "
Richerd Cree		
John Bac k	of adult age	" 11,
Mical Holdgate		
Joshua Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Joshua	" "
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins 3 <sup>d</sup>	" Archelaus	" "
David Balch Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Israel	" 25,
Francis Satchell	" John	" "
John Gould	" Elizabeth	May 9,
Stephen Gould	" Abner	" "
Abraham Hobbs	" Elijah	" 16,
David Perkins	" David	" "
Israel Averell	" Israel	June 13,
Jacob Curtice	" Lemuel	" 27,
Archelaus Rea	" Caleb	" "
Eliezer Gould	" Bezaleel	July 11,
Joseph Hale 3 <sup>d</sup>	" Joseph	" "
Richerd Marshall	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	" 18,
Moses Perkins	" Elijah	" 25,
Moses Pearley	" Sarah	August 1,
at Rowley 2 <sup>d</sup> Chh.		
Enoch Perkins	" Rebeckah	" "
by mr. Chanler at Topsfield.		
Stephen Perkins	his Dorothy	" 15,

## 26 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Stephen Perkias	his Mary	August	15, 1756.
Jacob Perkins 3 <sup>d</sup>	" Rachel	September	5,
Isaac Estey	" Stephen	"	12,
Aaron Hovey	" Ivory	"	19,
Jacob Wildes	" Lydia	"	"
Abner Hale	" Lucy	October	3,
Jacob Dwinell	" Ruth	"	17,
John Lampson 3 <sup>d</sup>	" John	"	"
Daniel Lake	" Enos	"	31,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Moor	" Hannah	"	"
John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" John	November	28,
Richerd Cree	" Rebeckah	"	"
Joseph Hale Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Susanna	December	12,
Stephen Symonds	" Mary	"	"
Widow Abigail Edwards her Mehetabel		"	"
Eliezer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Robert	January	2, 1757.
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Smith	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	9,
Jacob Gould	" Elizabeth	"	"
Jonathan Foster	" Dorcas	"	16,
Solomon Gould	" David	February	27,
Cap <sup>t</sup> Israel Herrick	" Mary	March	6,
Widow Eunice (?) Dwinell	her Susanna	"	20,
Daniel Kimball	his Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	April	10,
Joseph Majory	" Joseph	"	24,
Ebenezer Averell	" Elijah	May	29,
John Le=Favour	" Amos	June	5,
Paul Pricherd	" Pearley	"	12,
Retia Bacon	" Susanna	July	17,
baptized at Boxford.			
Decon Daniel Gould	" Lucy	"	31,
Amos Wildes	" Asa	"	"
John Cree	" Elizabeth	"	"
(above three) by m <sup>r</sup> . Chanler w <sup>r</sup> baptized.			
Will <sup>m</sup> Oils	his Lydia	August	7,
Robert Perkins	" Lydia	"	"
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bayley	" Susanna	"	14,
Will <sup>m</sup> Hood	" Amos	"	21,
Jacob Kimball	" Benj <sup>m</sup>	"	"
Benj <sup>m</sup> Woodbury	" John	"	28,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Sarah	Septemb <sup>r</sup>	4,
Jabez Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Moses	"	11,
Michael Chute	" Joseph	"	25,
baptized at Newbury.			

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 27

Joseph Knight	his John	October	2, 1757.
Paul Averell	" Joseph	"	"
Joseph Hutchinson	" Joseph	"	"
Bimsley Peabody	" Bimsley	"	"
Amos Curtis	" Rachel	"	"
Daniel Peabody	" Dorothy	"	"
baptized at Middleton (above six)			
Tho <sup>r</sup> Perkins	his Jemima	"	9,
Cap <sup>t</sup> Israel Davis	" Israel	"	16,
John Peabody	" Hannah	"	"
John Hood	" Eunice	"	23,
John Grant	" Prudence	"	"
Timothy Dorman	" Timothy	"	30,
Elijah Porter	" Hannah	November	6,
Joseph Gould	" Priscilla	"	13,
Tho <sup>r</sup> Kimball	" Huldah	December	4,
Joseph Cumings Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Hannah	January	8, 1758.
Simon Gould	" Elijah	March	5,
Sarah Daughter of John and Elizabeth Emerson.			
Pelatiah Cummings	his Pelatiah	"	"
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Low	" Molly	"	26,
John Bradstreet	" Lucy	April	2,
Stephen Gould	" Eunice	"	"
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Smith	" Ruth	"	9,
Moses Perkins	" Tho <sup>r</sup>	"	"
Eliezer Gould	" Jedidiah	"	16,
Jonathan Towne	" Amos	"	30,
Jonathan Bixby	" David	May	17,
Baptized on a week Day in y <sup>e</sup> 2 <sup>d</sup> Parrish in Boxford in a Private House, y <sup>e</sup> child being sick. Also baptized.			
Stephen Emery	his Betty	"	"
s <sup>d</sup> Emery going in to y <sup>e</sup> War.			
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Phippen	his Jonathan-Atwater	"	21 <sup>st</sup> ,
James Andrews	" Amasa	"	28 <sup>th</sup> ,
Stephen Symonds	" Martha	June	4,
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bixby	" Enos	"	11,
John Baker	" Moses	"	25,
Jacob Dwinell	" Abigail	July	9,
Tho <sup>r</sup> Dwinell	" Hannah	"	"
Archelaus Rea	" Mary	August	20,
Isaac Estey	" Abigail	September	10,
John Lampson 3 <sup>d</sup>	" Abigail	"	17,
Joseph Hale 3 <sup>d</sup>	" Hannah	October	8,

**28 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.**

<b>Retia Bacon</b>	<b>his Molly</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>8, 1758.</b>
<b>Daniel Kimball</b>	<b>" John</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>22,</b>
<b>Stephen Perkins</b>	<b>" Abigail.</b>	<b>Nov<sup>br</sup></b>	<b>12,</b>
<b>Fuller</b>	<b>" John</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>26,</b>
baptized at Middleton.			
<b>Jacob Kimball</b>	<b>" Mehetabel</b>	<b>Decem<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>3,</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Moor</b>	<b>" Elizabeth</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Gould Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Dorcas</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Widow Martha Dwinell her Jonathan</b>		<b>"</b>	<b>10,</b>
<b>W<sup>m</sup> Gallop</b>	<b>his Amos</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>24,</b>
<b>Amos Wildes</b>	<b>" Dudley</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>7, 1759.</b>
<b>David Balch Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Tho<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>February</b>	<b>4,</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Kimball</b>	<b>" Sarah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Zebulun Wildes</b>	<b>" Ezra</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>4,</b>
<b>Deacon Daniel Gould</b>	<b>" Sam<sup>ll</sup></b>	<b>"</b>	<b>11,</b>
<b>John Peabody</b>	<b>" Mehetabel</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Baker Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Olive</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>1,</b>
<b>John Le=Favour</b>	<b>" Ruth</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>8,</b>
<b>Jacob Gould</b>	<b>" Edna</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Cummings</b>	<b>" Sarah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>15,</b>
<b>Abraham Hobbs</b>	<b>" Susanna</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>22,</b>
<b>David Perkins</b>	<b>" Mercy</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>James Burch</b>	<b>" Jedidiah</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>6,</b>
<b>Solomon Gould</b>	<b>" Ruth</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>18,</b>
<b>Joseph Cummings Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Mehetabel</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Abner Curtis</b>	<b>" Abner</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>20,</b>
baptized at Boxford 1 <sup>st</sup> chh.			
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Perkins</b>	<b>his Rebeckah</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>3,</b>
y <sup>e</sup> last Child baptized in y <sup>e</sup> old Meeting House.			
<b>Elijah Bradstreet</b>	<b>his Elizabeth</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>24,</b>
<b>Eliezer Gould</b>	<b>" Aholiab</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>16,</b>
baptized in Private y <sup>e</sup> Child apprehended to be dangerously ill.			
<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Towne Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>his Enos</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>12,</b>
<b>Joseph Gould</b>	<b>" Sarah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>26,</b>
<b>John Cree</b>	<b>" Cornelius</b>	<b>Septem<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>16,</b>
<b>Daniel Lake</b>	<b>" Henry</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>28,</b>
<b>W<sup>m</sup> Hood</b>	<b>" Lydia</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>21,</b>
<b>Benj<sup>m</sup> Bixby</b>	<b>" Asa</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>25,</b>
<b>Joseph Magory</b>	<b>" Hannah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Benj<sup>m</sup> Bayley</b>	<b>" Mehetabel</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>23,</b>
<b>Joseph Andrew</b>	<b>" Hepsibah</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>13, 1760.</b>
<b>Bartholomew Dwinell</b>	<b>" Lucy</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>John Hood</b>	<b>" John</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>2,</b>

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 29

Tho <sup>s</sup> Foster	his Mehetabel	March	2, 1760.
Eliezer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mehetabel	"	16,
— Smith	" Mary	April	6,
	baptized at Rowley, 2 <sup>d</sup> Parrish.		
Benj <sup>m</sup> Woodbury	his Lydia	"	13,
Jacob Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Daniel	"	20,
Pelatiah Cummings	" Lydia	"	27,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins	" Moses	May	4,
John Lampson 3 <sup>d</sup>	" Abigail	"	11,
Robert Perkins	" Robert	June	1,
W <sup>m</sup> Jewett	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	8,
Daniel Averell	" Sarah	"	22,
Amos Perkins	" Kezia	August	3,
Joseph Lystia (?)	" Joseph	"	10,
Enoch Perkins	" Enoch	"	"
John Bradstreet	" Eunice	"	17,
Isaac Estey,	" Hannah	"	"
	baptized by Mr Holyoak (above two)		
David Kenney	his David	September 28,	
	baptized at Middleton.		
John Le-Favour	" W <sup>m</sup>	"	"
	baptized at Topsfield by Mr Smith.		
Tho <sup>s</sup> Howlett	his Sarah	October	12,
Molly Hoopper, of adult age, upon owing y <sup>e</sup>	"	"	19,
Cov <sup>t</sup> was baptized: also a			
Negro Serv <sup>t</sup> Child, named Dinah, y <sup>e</sup> Master	"	"	"
and Mistress Engaging to instruct s <sup>d</sup> child in			
y <sup>e</sup> Christian Religion.			
Richard Cree	his Stephen	December 28,	
Deacon Daniel Gould	" Lydia	January	11, 1761.
Jeremiah Dodge	" Abigail	Feby	1,
Joseph Towne	" Elizabeth	"	22,
Jacob Gould	" Susanna	"	"
Jacob Kimball	" Jacob	"	"
Tho <sup>s</sup> Moors	" Lois	March	1,
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Lake	" Jonathan	"	22,
Joseph Gould	" Mary	"	29,
Thos Baker Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mary	April	12,
David Balch Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Tho <sup>s</sup>	"	"
Moses Perkins	" David	"	"
	baptized by Mr Holyoak (above three)		
Ceesar, a Negro Servant Child, belonging to	"	"	19,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Cummings: y <sup>e</sup> Master & Mistress en-			
gaging to instruct and bring up y <sup>e</sup> child for			
GOD.			

## 30 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Gould Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>his Anna</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>17, 1761.</b>
<b>John Jacobs</b>	<b>" Mary</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>14,</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Dwinell</b>	<b>" Molly</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>26,</b>
<b>Jn<sup>o</sup> Fraser</b>	<b>" Elizabeth</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>16,</b>
<b>baptized at Byfield.</b>			
<b>Joseph Cummings</b>	<b>" Elijah</b>	<b>Septembr</b>	<b>27,</b>
<b>Jonathan Towne</b>	<b>" Pheebe</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>4,</b>
<b>Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Duston</b>	<b>" Ebenezer</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>18,</b>
<b>Amos Bayley</b>	<b>" Ednah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>" "</b>	<b>" Woodbridge</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Amos Page</b>	<b>" Parker</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>" "</b>	<b>" Abia</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Ebenezer Mitchell</b>	<b>" Esther</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Timothy Eaton</b>	<b>" Timothy</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>baptized in Haverhill, West Parish.</b>			
<b>(above seven)</b>			
<b>Dan<sup>ll</sup> Kimball</b>	<b>his Eunice</b>	<b>Novbr</b>	<b>1,</b>
<b>Francis Towne</b>	<b>" Lydia</b>	<b>Decembr</b>	<b>6,</b>
<b>W<sup>m</sup> Gallop</b>	<b>" Enos</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>13,</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Howlett</b>	<b>" Lydia</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Davis Howlett</b>	<b>" Cornelius</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>27,</b>
<b>Richerd Lang</b>	<b>" Benj<sup>m</sup></b>	<b>February</b>	<b>6, 1762.</b>
<b>baptized at Salem</b>			
<b>W<sup>m</sup> Hood</b>	<b>" Susanna</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>21,</b>
<b>baptized (by) Mr Holyoak.</b>			
<b>Ensign Solomon Gould his Amos</b>		<b>"</b>	<b>28,</b>
<b>Stephen Hovey</b>	<b>" Aaron</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>14,</b>
<b>Isaac Perkins</b>	<b>" Pheebe</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>21,</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Foster</b>	<b>" Dan<sup>ll</sup></b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>John Hood</b>	<b>" Sam<sup>ll</sup></b>	<b>"</b>	<b>28,</b>
<b>Bartholomew Dwinell</b>	<b>" Bartholomew</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Dan<sup>ll</sup></b>	<b>April</b>	<b>4,</b>
<b>Amos Wildes</b>	<b>" Jamme</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>11,</b>
<b>Jn<sup>o</sup> Clough</b>	<b>" Jn<sup>o</sup></b>	<b>"</b>	<b>25,</b>
<b>Tho<sup>s</sup> Perkins</b>	<b>" Susanna</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>9,</b>
<b>Benj<sup>m</sup> Bixby</b>	<b>" George</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Solomon Gould Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Nathan<sup>ll</sup></b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Cummings</b>	<b>" David</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>23,</b>
<b>Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Low</b>	<b>" Jonathan</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>20,</b>
<b>Robert Perkins</b>	<b>" Asa</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Dan<sup>ll</sup> Averell</b>	<b>" Dan<sup>ll</sup></b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>John Le-Favour</b>	<b>" Sarah</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>4,</b>
<b>Jn<sup>o</sup> Peabod [y]</b>	<b>" Jn<sup>o</sup></b>	<b>"</b>	<b>18,</b>
<b>Jn<sup>o</sup> Baker Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Mary</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>25,</b>
<b>baptized (by) Mr Chanler.</b>			

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 31

Tho <sup>s</sup> Wildes	his Jacob	September 26, 1762.
David Towne	" Tho <sup>s</sup>	October 17,
Jeremiah Foster	" Joshua	" 24,
Jacob Hazen	" Jacob	" "
baptized at Boxford, 1st Parrish.		
Peletiah Cummings	his Mehetabel	" 31,
Elijah Clarke	" Humphrey	" "
Tho <sup>s</sup> Hodgdon	" Rebekah	November 14,
John Lampson Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Ruth	" 28,
Deacon Dan <sup>ll</sup> Gould	" Ruth	December 5,
Eliezer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Joseph	" 12,
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bayley	" Benj <sup>m</sup>	" 19,
Isaac Averell	" Elijah	" 26,
David Balch Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Richerd	January 2, 1763.
Tho <sup>s</sup> Moor	" Deborah	" 16,
Joseph Gould	" Emerson	" 23,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Benj <sup>m</sup>	" 30,
Jacob Kimball	" Priscilla	March 13,
Francis Towne	" Pheebe	April 10,
John Jacobs	" Sarah	" 24,
W <sup>m</sup> Hood	" Moses	May 22,
Joseph Andrews	" Joseph	" 29,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mary	June 19,
John Herrick	" Anna	July 31,
Timothy Eaton	" James	August 14,
baptized in ye West Parrish in Haverhill.		
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Reddington	his Dan <sup>ll</sup>	September 4,
Elijah Clarke	" Mary	" 11,
Richard Cree	" Molly	October 16,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Howlett	" Elizabeth	" 23,
Archelaus Rea	" Uzziel	November 6,
Stephen Foster Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	" "
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Hood	" Lucy	" "
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Kimball	" Dudley	" 27,
baptized by ye Rev <sup>d</sup> m <sup>r</sup> Holyoake.		
Nathan Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	December 4,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Anna	" 18,
Davis Howlett	" Molly	" "
Cap <sup>t</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Cummings	" Israel	" 25,
Joseph Cummings	" Amos	" "
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	January 8, 1764.
Amos Perkins	" Betty	February 12,
Stephen Hovey	" Mary	March 4,
Peter Chever	" Peter Osgood	" 18,
baptized at Salem.		

## 32 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Joseph Perkins	his Jacob	March	25, 1764.
Stephen Towne Jun <sup>r</sup> and Sarah, wife of Elijah Dwinell, both of adult age : also		April	15,
John Le-Favour	his Joseph	"	"
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Harris Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah	"	"
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins	" Dan <sup>ll</sup>	"	22;
Tho <sup>s</sup> Cummings Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Jonah	"	"
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Cree and		"	29,
Stephen Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup> both of adult age		"	"
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Israel	May	20,
David Balch Jun <sup>r</sup>	" W <sup>m</sup>	"	27,
John Baker Jun <sup>r</sup>	" John	July	8,
John Peabody	" Mehetabel	August	12,
Daniel Lake	" Nathan	"	19,
Solomon Curtis by m <sup>r</sup> Chandler	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	26,
Jacob Gould	" Jacob	September	9,
Edmund Towne	" Edmund	"	23,
John Clough	" Oliver	"	"
by m <sup>r</sup> Lesslie (above two)			
I baptized at Newbury-Port			
Benj <sup>m</sup> Moody	his Benj <sup>m</sup> &	"	"
Richerd ——	" Richerd	"	"
Peter Emerson	" Abigail	October	14,
James Chase	" Sarah	"	"
Enoch Herriman	" Sarah	"	"
John Bradley	" Mary	"	"
baptized at Haverhill West Parrish.			
John Balch	his Cornelius	"	21,
" "	" Roger	"	"
" "	" Rebekah	"	"
Benj <sup>m</sup> Bixby	" Rachel	"	"
Isaac Averell	" Joseph	November	4,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Anna	"	11,
Pelatiah Cummings	" Sarah	December	2,
Solomon Gould	" Solomon	"	16,
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Hood	" Jacob	January	13, 1765.
Joseph Gould	" John	"	27,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Moor	" Thos	"	"
John Jacobs	" Rebekah	"	"
Nathan Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Nathan	March	10,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Howlett	" John	"	17,
Amos Porter	" Lydia	April	7,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 33

Joseph Perkins	his Anna	May	19, 1765.
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins	" Rachel	June	2,
Joseph Perkins	" Anna	"	"
Jacob Kimball	" Anna	"	9,
Francis Towne	" Rebekah	"	"
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Fiske	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Isaac Pearley	" Isaac	"	23,
baptized at Boxford first Parish.			
Thomas Emerson	his Billy	August	4,
Thomas Wildes	" Daniel	"	11,
baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Holyoak.			
John Lampson Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Sarah	"	25,
Stephen Foster Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Matta	"	"
Peter Chever	" Sam <sup>ll</sup> and	September	8,
Archelaus Hayward	" Archelaus	"	"
baptized at Salem & m <sup>r</sup> Lesslie baptized at Topsfield			
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Averell	his Solomon	"	"
Jacob Andrews	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	15,
baptized at Boxford & m <sup>r</sup> Holyoake baptized at Topsfield			
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Kimball	his Joseph	"	"
Stephen Hovey	" Abigail	"	29,
John Bradstreet	" Dudley	October	13,
Joseph Andrews	" Salome	November	3,
Abraham Hobbs Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth	"	"
Thomas Cummings	" Joseph	December	22,
Benjamin Bayley	" Dinah	January	26, 1766.
John Le-Favour	" Amos	February	2,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet	" Ruth	March	23,
Thomas Foster	" Thomas	"	30,
Thomas Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Hannah	"	"
Widow Vashti Curtis	her Solomon	April	13,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Elizabeth	May	25,
John May	" Abigail	"	"
" "	" Elizabeth	"	"
John May	" John	June	8,
Deacon Dan <sup>ll</sup> Gould	" Moses	"	22,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Harris	" Mary	"	"
Jeremiah Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Asa	July	6,
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Reddington	" Jacob	August	10,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins	" Lydia	October	12,
also baptized			
Elizabeth Robinson of adult age		"	"

## 34 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Tho <sup>o</sup> Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Sarah	November	2, 1766.
Jacob Gould	“ Lois	“	9,
Daniel Hood	“ Ruth	“	“
Isaac Hobbs	“ Sarah	“	16,
Archelaus Rea	“ Sarah	“	23,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	“ Elijah	“	30,
Philip Thomas	“ Mary	“	“
Philip Thomas	“ Francis	January	25, 1767.
Joseph Gould	“ Cornelius	February	1,
Pelatiah Cummings	“ Isaac	“	“
Daniel Averell	“ Joanna	March	15,
Daniel Lake	“ Sarah	“	22,
Thomas Howlett	“ Mary	“	“
W <sup>m</sup> Hood	“ Aaron	April	5,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Pearley	“ Mehetabel	“	12,
baptized at Boxford first Parish.			
Benjamin Marshall	his Mary	May	17,
Jacob Goodhue	“ Anna	“	“
“ “	“ Martha	“	“
Jonathan Cogswell	“ Hannah	“	“
“ “	“ Benjamin	“	“
baptized at Chebacco, in Ipswich.			
Jonathan Towne	his Jedidiah	“	24,
baptized at Boxford first Parish;			
m <sup>r</sup> Hovey baptized at Topsfield			
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Fisk	his Ruth	“	“
John Bacheller Jun <sup>r</sup>	“ Lydia	“	31,
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Averell Jun <sup>r</sup>	“ Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	June	14,
Thomas Wildes	“ Huldah	“	28,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet	“ Elijah	July	5,
Isaac Averell	“ Isaac	August	9,
Joseph Perkins	“ Henry	“	23,
baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Holyoke.			
Jacob Kimball	his Lucy	September	6,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Cummings	“ Mehetabel	“	“
Francis Towne	“ Francis	“	“
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>	“ Enos	“	13,
Davis Howlett	“ Martha	“	“
Aaron Estey Jun <sup>r</sup>	“ Joseph	“	“
Abraham Hobbs Jun <sup>r</sup>	“ Lydia	“	27,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	“ Dolly	October	18,
Robert Perkins	“ Mehetabel	November	29,
Isaac Hobbs	“ Elijah	January	24, 1768.
John Batcheller Jun <sup>r</sup>	“ John	“	“

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 35

Jacob Hobbs	his Jacob	February	21, 1768.
Richerd Potter	" Lydia	March	6,
artholomew Dwinell	" Huldah	"	27,
Baptized in Salem, in y <sup>e</sup> Chh y <sup>t</sup> belonged to y <sup>e</sup> Rev <sup>d</sup> m <sup>r</sup> Huntington lately deceased :			
Benj <sup>m</sup> Peal	his Hannah and	April	17,
Edmund Bickford	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Solomon Gould	" Mehetabel	May	8,
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Israel	"	15,
Nathaniel Thomas	" Esther	"	22,
Thomas Cummings	" Thomas	"	29,
Thomas Perkins	" Zacheus	June	19,
John Baker Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Thomas	"	"
John Balch Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah	"	"
Cap <sup>t</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Peabody	" Molly	July	17,
baptized at Middleton.			
Eliezer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Elizabeth	"	31,
Jacob Towne	" Jacob	"	"
baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Holyoke (above two)			
Joseph Hood	his Sarah	August	14,
John Lampson Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Lois	"	28,
John May	" Elizabeth	"	"
Asa Smith	" Stephen	"	"
Richerd Tenney	" Richerd	September	11,
baptized at Rowley 2 <sup>d</sup> Parrish.			
m <sup>r</sup> Chanler baptized in Topsfield			
John Hood	his Esther	"	"
Thomas Moore	" Josiah	"	18,
Thomas Emerson	" Thomas	"	"
Thomas Howlett	" Allice	October	16,
baptized at Boxford first Parrish.			
Richerd Cree	his Joshua	December	4,
by m <sup>r</sup> Leslie.			
Jacob Gould	" Sarah	"	18,
Philip Thomas	" Dudley	"	25,
Joseph Gould	" Sarah	February	5, 1769.
Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Thomas	March	5,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	" Dudley	"	12,
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Reddington	" John	"	"
Abraham Hobbs Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Salome	"	"
Pelatiah Cummings	" Abigail	"	19,
Francis Towne	" Sarah	"	26,
John Dwinell of adult age		April	9,

## 36 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Joseph Perkins	his Jabesh	April	9, 1769.
Samuel Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Allen	May	7,
Isaac Hobbs	" Priscilla	"	28,
Samuel Bradstreet	" Elijah	June	4,
Nathan Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Thomas	"	"
" "	" Amos } twins	"	"
David Balch Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Joshua	"	11,
baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Holyoake.			
Deacon John Patch	his Joseph	"	18,
John Brown	" Martha	"	"
Edward Lampson	" Daniel	"	"
George Adams	" Hannah	"	"
David Thompson	" Jacob	"	"
Ezra Knowlton	" Ezra	"	"
Andrew Dodge	" Sarah	"	"
baptized at Ipswich Hamlett (above seven)			
Benjamin Bayley	his Billy	"	25,
Samuel Cree	" Samuel	"	"
Moses Perkins	" Daniel	July	16,
Aaron Estey Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Hannah	August	6,
baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Lesslie.			
Nathana <sup>ll</sup> Fiske	" John	"	20,
Daniel Averell	" Solomon	"	27,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Lydia	September	10,
John Clough	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	October	1,
" "	" Eunice	"	"
Isaac Averell	" Moses	"	"
Joseph Hood	" Joseph	November	28,
Thomas Moor	" Josiah	December	10,
John Peabody	" Ebenezer	"	17,
John Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Nabby	"	31,
Jacob Kimball	" Lydia	January	28, 1770.
baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Holyoke.			
Thomas Perkins	his Reuben	February	25,
Daniel Hood	" Daniel	"	"
John Batcheller Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Joseph	March	18,
Asa Smith	" Asa	"	25,
Benjamin Kimball	" Abraham	April	8,
Thomas Cummings	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	June	24,
Henry Bradstreet	" Henry	July	15,
Elisha Perkins	" Elisha	"	22,
Archelaus Rea	" Anna	August	19,
Isaac Hobbs	" Isaac	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 37

Robert Balch	his Hannah	August	19, 1770.
Stephen Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Richerd	September	9,
Jacob Dwinell	" Eunice	"	23,
	baptized at Boxford first Parish.		
Abraham How Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Abraham	October	28,
	baptized at Line Brook.		
M <sup>r</sup> Lesslie	baptized at Topsfield		
Jacob Gould	his Kezia	"	"
John Baker Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Ebenezer		
" " "	" Emerson } twins	December	23,
Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Ezra	"	"
Joseph Perkins	" Hannah	March	17, 1771.
Daniel Reddington	" Adam	"	"
Jacob Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Israel	"	"
Aquila Wilkins	" Edna	April	7,
Abner Wilkins	" Eunice	"	"
	baptized at Middleton (above two)		
John Peabody	his Molly	May	12,
Moses Perkins	" Anna	June	2,
Oliver Towne of adult age		"	9,
Jedidiah Peabody	his Mary	July	21,
	baptized at Boxford.		
Thomas Emerson	" John	"	28,
Thomas Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Peggy	August	11,
Benjamin Bixby Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah	"	25,
Henry Bradstreet	" Nathan <sup>ll</sup>	October	6,
Pelatiah Cummings	" Abigail	"	13,
	baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Holyoake.		
Joseph Gould	his Abigail	"	27,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Mical	November	17,
Amos Perkins	" Sarah	"	"
	baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Adams (above two)		
Samuel Clarke	" Anna	Decemb <sup>r</sup>	1,
Stephen Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Enos	"	15,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet	" John	"	22,
Cornelius Balch	" Nabby	"	"
Philip Thomas	" Eunice	February	2, 1772.
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	" Molly	"	16,
Daniel Hood	" Abner	"	23,
Robert Balch	" Robert	"	"
Joseph Hood	" Dorcas	"	"
Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Fiske	" Lydia	March	1,
Asahel Smith	" Jesse	"	8,

38 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

<b>Asahel Smith</b>	<b>his Priscilla</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>8, 1772</b>
" "	" Joseph	"	"
<b>Oliver Perkins</b>	<b>" Oliver</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Joseph Andrews</b>	<b>" Ephraim</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>12,</b>
<b>Benj<sup>m</sup> Kimball</b>	<b>" Hannah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Abraham Hobbs Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Abraham</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>19,</b>
<b>Jacob Kimball</b>	<b>" David</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>26, 1771.</b>
<b>Isaac Hobbs</b>	<b>" Priscilla</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Isaac Averell</b>	<b>" Phebe</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>3,</b>
<b>John Curtice</b>	<b>" Sarah</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>10,</b>
baptized at Boxford, 1 <sup>st</sup> Parrish.			
<b>Isaac Dempsey</b>	<b>his Frances</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>17,</b>
baptized at Danvers.			
<b>Asa Smith</b>	<b>" Molly</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>24,</b>
<b>John Gould Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Becka</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>31,</b>
<b>Molly, wife of Samuel Page, &amp; also baptized</b>			
their Child, Sam <sup>ll</sup>			
<b>Thomas Moor</b>	<b>" Sarah</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>28,</b>
<b>John Balch Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Mehetabel</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>5,</b>
" "	<b>" Martha</b>	<b>} twins</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Stephen Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Nabby</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>12,</b>
<b>Dan<sup>ll</sup> Clarke</b>	<b>" Elijah</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>28,</b>
y <sup>e</sup> ordinance administered at s <sup>d</sup> Clarke's			
House y <sup>e</sup> Child being dangerously ill.			
<b>Solomon Gould</b>	<b>his Martha</b>	<b>September 13,</b>	
<b>Joseph Perkins</b>	<b>" Elisha</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>11,</b>
<b>Joseph Browne Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Molly</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Jacob Dwinell Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Anna</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>18,</b>
<b>Oliver Perkins</b>	<b>" Lucy</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>8,</b>
<b>John Batcheller</b>	<b>" Anna</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>15,</b>
<b>Abel Perkins</b>	<b>" Jacob</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Richerd Foster</b>	<b>" Dorcas</b>	<b>Decemb<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>6,</b>
baptized at Boxford first Parrish.			
<b>John Peabody</b>	<b>his Lucy</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>17, 1773.</b>
<b>Thomas Gould</b>	<b>" Mercy</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
<b>Henry Bradstreet</b>	<b>" Daniel</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>14,</b>
<b>Isaac Dempsey</b>	<b>" Hannah</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>14,</b>
baptized at Danvers.			
<b>Solomon Dodge Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Amos</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>11,</b>
<b>John Lampson Jun<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>" Eunice</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>18,</b>
<b>John Dwinell</b>	<b>" Esther</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>25,</b>
<b>Sam<sup>ll</sup> Cree</b>	<b>" Moses</b>	<b>May</b>	
" "	<b>} twins</b>		<b>9,</b>

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 39

Pelatiah Cummings	his Oliver	June	6, 1772.
Thomas Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Thomas by m <sup>r</sup> Lesslie.	"	13,
Stephen Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Molly	"	27,
David Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Ebenezer	"	"
Moses Perkins	" Sarah	July	11,
A Negro servant Child Peter belonging to Lieut John Baker Jun <sup>r</sup>		"	"
Isaac Hobbs	his Elisabeth	August	8, 1773.
Joseph Gould	" Joseph	"	29,
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet	" Moses	"	"
Sam <sup>ll</sup> Fisk	" Sam <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Anna Towne of adult age		"	"
Dorcas Towne of adult age		October	10,
Benjamin Kimball	his Mehetabel	"	"
Robert Balch	" Solomon	"	"
Widow Sarah Fiske	her Sarah	"	24,
Elnathan Hubbard	his Mehetabel	November	7,
Richard Potter	" Joseph	"	14,
Stephen Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Aaron	"	"
Nehemiah Towne	" Nehemiah	"	"
John Rea	" Ruth	January	2, 1774.
John Perkins 3 <sup>d</sup>	" Mehetabel	"	28,
y <sup>e</sup> ordinance administered at s <sup>d</sup> Perkins House, y <sup>e</sup> Child being dangerously ill.			
Joseph Hood	his Huldah	March	18,
Nehemiah Towne	" Ichabod	"	20,
Israel Clark Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Israel	May	15,
" "	" Anna	"	"
" "	" Sarah	"	"
Widow Sarah Towne	her Oliver	"	"
John Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Betty	"	"
Tho <sup>s</sup> Cummings	" Daniel	"	"
Cornelius Balch	" Richerd	"	"
Asa Smith	" Hannah	"	22,
baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Nathani <sup>ll</sup> Porter.			
Daniel Clarke	his Daniel	"	29,

---

July the 11<sup>th</sup> 1774, The Rev<sup>nd</sup> Mr John Emerson De-  
parted this Life Aged 67 years, five months, and four  
days. He was Ordained November 27<sup>th</sup> 1728.

**40 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.**

Daniel Averill	his Mehetible	August	21, 1774.
Abraham Hobbs Jnr.	his Lydia	"	"
Nath <sup>ll</sup> Fisk	" Benjamin	"	"
	baptized by Mr Smith of Middletown.		
Samuel Comings	His Sam <sup>ll</sup>	October	16,
	By Mr Stone of Reding.		
Joseph perkins	his Ely	November	6,
	by Mr Swain.		
Jacob Gould	" Huldah	March	5, 1775.
Jacob Kimball	" Samuel	"	"
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Porter	" Nat <sup>ll</sup>	"	"
Dan <sup>ll</sup> Porter	" David	"	"
Isaac Hobbs	" Munson	"	"
Stephen Perkins Jnr	" Prissa	"	"
Thomas Gould	" Phebe	"	"
	Baptized by m <sup>r</sup> Daniel Emerson of Hollis.		
Tho <sup>s</sup> Mower	his Olive		
Stephen Towne Jnr.	" Joseph		
John Batchellor	" Jacob		
Henry Bradstreet	" Bille		
Robert Balch	" Sarah		
Solomon Doge	" Solomon		
Moses Perkins, son of Oliver Perkins was			
Baptised		[Jan <sup>y</sup>	14, 1776.?]
Joseph Emerson, son of Thomas Emerson was		Jan <sup>y</sup>	14, 1776.
Baptised			
Betty Cummings, Daughter of Palatiah Cum-			
mings was Baptised		"	"
Peggy Furner, Daughter of Mr —— Furner			
was Baptised		"	"
Sarah Kimball, Daughter of Benj <sup>m</sup> Kimball was			
Baptised		"	"
Joseph Towne	his Lydia	[March	3, 1776.]
Jacob Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Mehitable	[March	3, 1776.]
	Baptised By Mr Manassah Cuttlar of Ipswich		
	Hamblet.		
John Dwinell	his John	March	3, 1776.
David Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	" Sarah	"	"
John Perkins 3d	" Mehitable	"	"
	By Mr Cuttlar.		
Asa Smith	" Manassah	May	5,
	By Mr Frisbe of Ipswich.		
Stephen Foster jun <sup>r</sup>	his Nabby	July	7,
Samuel Fisk	" Ezra	"	"
	By Mr Nathaniel Porter.		

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 41

Thomas Perkins, jun <sup>r</sup>	his Samuel	September 15, 1776.
John Balch	" John	" "
Samuel Cree	" Joseph	" "
By Mr George Laslee of Lime Brook.		
Daniel Clark	his Daniel	December 1,
I [s] aac Hobbs	" Samiel	" "
By Mr Levi Frisbe of Ipswich.		
Thomas Cummings	his John Bordman	May 4 <sup>th</sup> , 1777.
John Dwinel	" Mahetabell	" "
Daniel Porter	" Sarah	" "
By the Rev <sup>nd</sup> Mr Dane of Ipswich.		
Nathaniel Fiske	his Moses	August 24,
Joseph Hood	" Bettey	" "
By the rev <sup>d</sup> Mr Lesslie.		
Jacob Kimball	his Benjamin	February 9, 1778.
by the rev <sup>nd</sup> Mr Spring of Newbury.		
Andrew, son of Stephen Towne, Jun <sup>r</sup>		April 12,
Ruth, Phebe, and William		" "
Children of William Estie.		
Azariah, son of Nathaniel Averel Jun <sup>r</sup>		" "
Jessee, Son of John Perkins of Boxford		" "
Betty Davgter of Palatiah Cummings		" "
Hannah Davgter of Abraham Hobbs Jun <sup>r</sup>		" "
Mary Davgter of David Towne Jr		" "
Susanna Davgter of Isaac Hobbs		" "
William Son of Oliver Perkins		" "
Lucy Davgter of Daniel Hood		" "
All Baptized in one day by the rev <sup>nd</sup> m <sup>r</sup> Holyoke of Boxford.		
Ebenezer Peabody, Son of John Peabody		November 8 <sup>th</sup>
Baptized by Mr Manassa Cutler of Ipswich Hamblet.		
Daniel Clarke	his Elijah	April 25 <sup>th</sup> , 1779.
Samuel Perkins	" Ezra	" "
John Dwinel	" Esther	" "
Benjamin Hobbs	" Daniel	" "
Baptized by the Rev <sup>nd</sup> Mr Wadsworth of Danverse.		
Philip Thomas	his Philip	July 27 <sup>th</sup>
Ebenezer Goodhue	" Ebenezer	" "
Baptized by y <sup>e</sup> Rev <sup>nd</sup> Mr Wadsworth of Danvers.		
Oliver Perkins	his Lois	July 4 <sup>th</sup>

## 42 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Eliezer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	his Eliezer	July	4 <sup>th</sup> 1779.
By the Rev <sup>d</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Dana of Ipswich.			
John Batcheller	his Jacob	August	24 <sup>th</sup>
by the Rev <sup>nd</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Lesslie of Lyne Brook Parrish in Ipswich.			
Isaac Hobbs	his Humphry	September	5 <sup>th</sup>
David Hobbs	" Lucy	"	"
By ye Rev <sup>nd</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Adams of Haverhill.			
William Estie	his Debbe	November	7 <sup>th</sup>
by the Rev <sup>nd</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Cutler of Ipswich Hamblet.			

Rev. Daniel Breck, the fifth pastor of the Church in Topsfield, was ordained to the Charge, the 17<sup>th</sup> of November, 1779.

**NOTE.** This includes all the baptisms to the time of the ordination of Rev. Mr. Breck.—*Editor.*





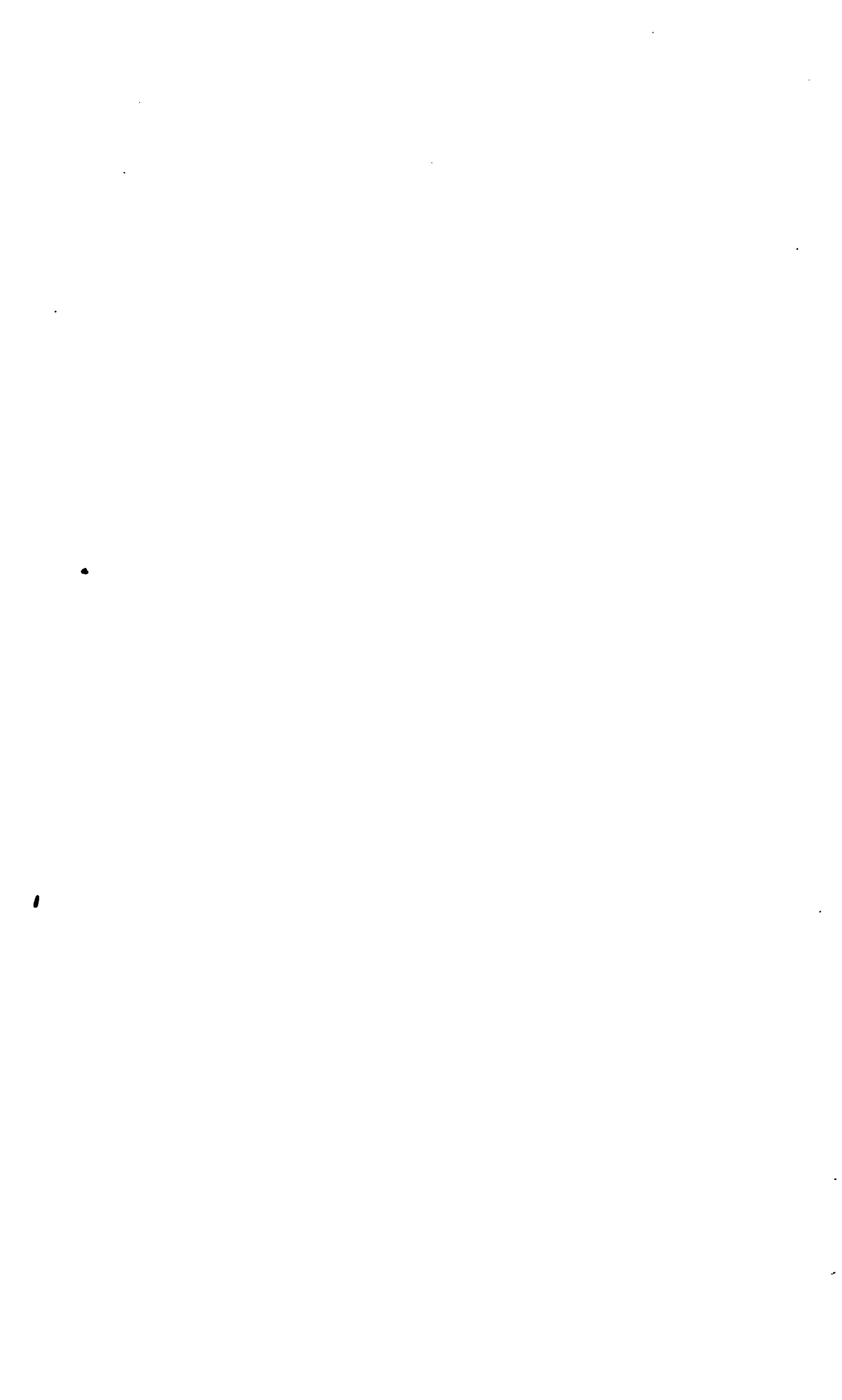
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HISTORICAL  
COLLECTIONS  
OF THE  
TOPSFIELD  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

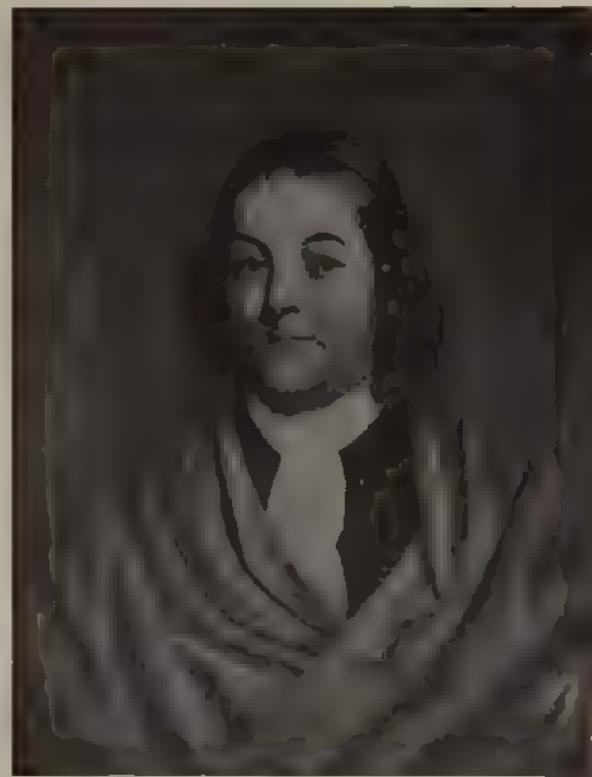
VOL II.

1896.

TOPSFIELD, MASS.:  
Published by the Society,  
1896.







SIMON BRADSTREET, COLONIAL GOVERNOR.

*N.*  
THE  
**HISTORICAL**  
**COLLECTIONS**  
OF THE  
**TOPSFIELD**  
**HISTORICAL SOCIETY.**

—  
VOL II.

74.3

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1896.

LONG ISLAND  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY.

TOPSFIELD, MASS.:  
Published by the Society,  
1896.



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# Topsfield Historical Society.

---

## Officers for the year 1896.

---

President,

JUSTIN ALLEN, M. D.

---

Vice-President,

CHARLES J. PEABODY.

---

Secretary,

GEO. FRAS. DOW.

---

Treasurer,

GEO. FRAS. DOW.

---

Curator,

MRS. G. WARREN TOWNE.

---

Executive Committee,

JOSEPH B. POOK,

WELLINGTON DONALDSON,

JUSTIN ALLEN, M. D., *ex-officio*,

CHAS. J. PEABODY, *ex-officio*,

GEO. FRAS. DOW, *ex-officio*.



## Secretary's Report.

Another annual meeting must remind this society that the dignity of years is beginning to surround its work, that while our chosen field is the collection and preservation of the history and antiquities of our town, all the while as a society, we are creating history and performing a duty which will not be forgotten when the story of Topsfield is related to future generations.

The relics and curiosities we collect today illustrating the life and customs of former years, with each passing cycle obtain a new significance and greater historical value. Today's object of small concern becomes tomorrow a thing of moment or curious interest. But of greater and more lasting value is the work being performed by the society in placing upon the printed page a chronicle of historical and biographical matter relating to Topsfield. Data perchance found only in the fleeting memories of those now living, or compiled from fragments widely scattered.

The past year has seen the beginning of an important work; the reproduction in type of the records of the town. Copies from the clerk's book of original records from the earliest times until the year 1684 have been carefully and exactly made and are reproduced in the first 52 pages of the volume of Historical Collections for the past year.

The work should be continued in the coming volumes, and carried forward as extensively and elaborately as the funds of the society will

allow. It is not unreasonable to ask that the town should in a degree share in this expense. Rowley, Manchester and Beverly have printed their early records, and several other towns in the county have been to great expense in having duly certified copies made of valuable records rapidly becoming illegible through the ravages of time.

If not at the coming town meeting, perhaps at some future time the matter should be brought before the town for its consideration.

The past year has shown a very successful growth. The membership has grown from a total of 94 at our last annual meeting to 139 at the present time. A large proportion of this increase comes from those living without the bounds of the town. Former residents or historians interested in obtaining our volume of historical collections in exchange for the membership dues.

This method of enlarging our rolls should be encouraged during the coming year. The annual fee of fifty cents is small and not to be compared with the value of the collections.

At the regular meeting in February, Rev. O. S. Butler of Georgetown lectured before the society on the History of the American Flag. With that single exception, members of the society have prepared the historical papers which have been read at each regular meeting, several of them appearing in the volume of collections.

On the 18th of June a highly

## VIII

successful field meeting was held at membership for non-payment of dues. "The Colleges," the Danvers Historical Society, and the History Class connected with the Essex Institute being represented on invitation from this society.

Over 150 persons were present and heard with interest an historical sketch on the locality read by Miss Gertrude Bradstreet, and speeches by Pres. Allen and Dr. A. P. Putnam and other members of the Danvers Historical Society.

We have lost three members by death, Mrs. Louisa Leach, Capt. R. B. Pray and Amos T. Fiske, while two others have been dropped from

Beyond a suggestion that an effort be made to suitably encase our growing collection of relics and curiosities now at the Town Hall, your secretary has nothing to recommend save a spirit of enthusiasm on matters historical. Enlarge the membership and speak a good word for the society when inspecting a relic of the town's life, remembering that many an attic in town still conceals treasures that should find their way into our collections.

Respectfully submitted,  
GEO. FR. DOW,  
Secretary.



**IX**

**Treasurer's Report**

For the year ending Dec. 31, 1896.

RECEIPTS.	PAYMENTS.	
Bal. on hand, Jan. 1. 1896	\$ .30	Printing Collections \$85.25
Annual dues	57.50	Printing Baptismal Records 8.00
Historical Collections, sold	7.00	Printing Postals and Tickets 4.00
Cloth bindings	3.00	Binding Collections 9.25
Donation, Members of Society	23.75	Postal cards and postage 4.98
Donation, George L. Gould	2.50	Use of electrotpe 1.00
		Field meeting, carriages, etc. 4.81
		Expressing, stationery, etc. 1.47
		Lecturer's expenses .28
	<hr/> \$94.50	<hr/> \$88.99
	Balance on hand	\$25.08

Respectfully submitted,

Geo. Fns. Dow,

Treasurer.



X

**Donations for the year ending Dec. 31, 1896.**

	Library.	Cabinet.
Averill, Sidney W.	1	14
Bomer, Mrs. Caroline E., Ipswich	4	
Dodge, John H.		2
Dodge, Wm. Ladd	1	
Dow, Eugene M.		1
Dwinell, Esther		1
Fitts, Rev. James H., Newfields, N. H.	12	
Foster, Edwin O., Salem	1	
Gould, Andrew	1	
Gould, Esther	1	
Harriman, H. N., Georgetown	8	
Haven, Mrs. Theodore W., Glasco, N. Y.		2
Halker, William, Newburyport		1
Kneeland, C. A. S.		1
Lake, Otto E.		1
Merriam, Henry G.	1	
Nichols, Mrs. Mary L.	3	
Peabody, Helen, St. Louis, Mo.	1	1
Perkins, William	1	
Pray, Mrs. Caroline E.	5	1
Stevens, Albert W.		77
Smith, Mrs. Nath., Boxford	1	
Smith, Mrs. Calvin, Boxford		1
Wells, Catherine		1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	36	104

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. G. WARREN TOWNE,

Curator.

## **Necrology for 1896.**

---

**LOUISA (MORGAN) LEACH** was born at Manchester, Mass., Nov. 23, 1816, and died at Topsfield, Feb. 6, 1896. She was the daughter of Isaac and Salome (Brown) Morgan. She was united in marriage with Thomas K. Leach of Wenham May 2, 1836. Five children were born to them; Mary Ann, who married Lafayette Batchelder and lives in Wenham; Sarah Kimball, who married Isaac M. Woodbury and lives in Topsfield; Martha, who married Moses N. Boardman and lives in Georgetown; Charles Healey, who married Mary A. Wilkins and lives at the homestead and Martha Louisa who died when a child.

Mrs. Leach was a charter member of the Society and the author of the article on the trial of Elizabeth P. Bradstreet printed in Vol. I. of the Historical Collections. She became a member of the Congregational church in Topsfield in 1839, and ever maintained an exemplary christian character. Of retentive memory, her reminiscences of early life were of great interest and a journal of events kept by her for many years will be of much value to the historian.

---

**RUEL BENTON PRAY** was born at Salem, Mass., April 18, 1838, and died at Topsfield, Oct. 6, 1896. He was the son of Ruel and Mehitable (Kender) Pray. Receiving his education in the public schools of Salem, while yet in his teens he enlisted in the merchant marine and served as sailor, mate and captain. He made a voyage around the world with Capt. Lewis F. Miller of Salem. He also served on the U. S. S. Cumberland previous to the Civil war, being stationed off the west coast of Africa. The first man to enlist from Danvers he served until the close of the war; was provost marshal at Baltimore, Sept. 1861; 1st lieutenant, Dec. 19, 1861; was disabled in Aug. 1863 and resigned. March 4, 1864 he was mustered into the Navy, serving as master's mate or ensign on U. S. S. Savannah, Algonquin, Young America, Wilderness, Chicopee, Queen and Saracens.

After the war he engaged in journalism, editing newspapers in Salem, and Marlboro. He was one of the projectors of THE TOPSFIELD TOWNSMAN.

For several years he was engaged in the cigar business at Danvers. He was prominent in G. A. R. circles and much interested in the public school system.

October 28, 1860, he married Caroline E. daughter of William and Sally Gallup of Topsfield. Two children were born to them, Charlotte Elizabeth and William G.

Mr. Pray was a charter member of the Topsfield Historical Society.

## XII

AMOS TENNY FISKE was yet a young man when he died Nov. 19, 1896. He was a charter member of the society. The son of John and Adeliza Minerva (Pike) Fiske he was born in Topsfield, June 16 1870.

For several years he was in the employ of Balch Bros. subscription book publishers but in the spring of 1895 he embarked in the retail shoe business in Topsfield. Until his death he was active in church work. A member of the Congregational society and president of the Y. P. C. E. society connected with the church.

He was never married.

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S

THE  
EARLY RECORDS  
OF THE  
TOWN OF TOPSFIELD,  
MASSACHUSETTS.

---

TRANSCRIBED BY Geo. Fra. Dow.

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The first book of original clerk's shall be Trancibed in to ye new records now in existence, begins with the year 1675. That a record was kept during the previous twenty-five years beginning with 1650, the date of incorporation, is proven by the following extracts from the clerk's records :—

"At a lawfull meeting 7 march 75-76 it is ordered that the select men shall see that the olde book the towne book shall be trancscribed into the new book and that the land on the south sid the Reuer that was layed out by deuisians to the seueral inhabetants the select men shall see that ther lots be Recorded according as tha ware lade out voted.

At a lawfull Towne meting the 7th of march 1681 or 82. The Towne has Voated that ye old Towne Booke

shall be Trancibed in to ye new Towne Booke all that is needfull to be don & that is not all redy done.

Voated.

Lliut pebody & John Gould are Chosen to Tranccribe all ye old Towne booke in to ye newe Towne booke as is Needfull to be done

Voated."

These earlier records were transcribed from time to time into "the new book," and are found incorporated in the records of the current years of 1675 to 1683. In the following copy I have arranged these fragments in chronological order, greatly regretting their incompleteness.

GEO. FR. DOW.

A C T S  
OF THE  
GENERAL COURT CONCERNING TOPSFIELD.

---

"Whereas the inhabitants of Salem have agreed to plant a village neare the ryver w'ch runs to Ipswich, it is ordered, that all the land neare their bounds, between Salem & the said ryver, not belonging to any other towne or person, by any former grant, shall belong to the said village."

Mass. Colony Records.  
5 Nov. 1639.

---

"Upon Zacheus Goulds petition, it is conceived to be for the gen'rall good, & very convenient, there should be a village about that farme, & that the towne of Ipswich should further them therein."

Mass. Colony Records,  
29 May 1644.

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"Whereas, at the Co'rt houlden at Boston the 4th, 7th mo. 1639, there was certaine land lying neare Ipswich Ryver granted for a village, eith'r to some of the inhabitants of Salem, or to some of the inhabitants of Ipswich, who have farmses near unto the said land, to bee enjoyed by those who fi'st settled a village there; they both propounding for it togeth'r; howsoev'r the ord'r mentioneth only Salem inhabitants, & forasmuch as the said inhabitants of Ipswich have for neare this two years procured & maintained one to dispence the word of God unto them, w'ch they intend to continue, it is therfore ordered & granted, that Mr. Jno. E: decott & the said inhabitants of Ipswich, viz., Mr. Bradstreete, Mr. Symonds, Mr Whittingham, Mr. William Paine, Mr. Robert Paine, & such oth'r of Ipswich or Salem as they shall associate to themselves, shall have lib'ry to settle a village neare the said ryver of Ipswich, as it may bee most convenient for them, to w'ch the foresaid land shall belong, viz., all that w'ch lieth neare the said ryver (not formerly granted to any towne or person), provided that any of the inhabitants of Salem, who have farmses neare unto the said land now granted, shall have liberty for one yeare next comaeing to loyne with the said village."

Mass. Colony Records.  
17 Oct. 1643.

"Forasmuch as ys Co'rt hath form'rly granted yt yr should be a village upon Ipswich Ryver, at or neare a place called ye New Medowes, & forasmuch as c'rteine of ye inhabitants of Ipswich who have farmses improved neer yrunto, & do desire yt a minist'r might be settleed yr to dispence ye word to ye present inhabitants & such oth'rs as shall plant ymselues at ye said village, whom yet notwithstanding they are no wayes able in any comfortable mann'r to mainetaine a minister, & to defray oth'r necessary charges of ye place, if w'thall they should be lyable to ali other rates & publike charges of ye towne of Ipswich.

This Co'rt doth therfore hereby order, yt either ye whole towne of Ipswich shall equally contribute (w'th such oth'r inhabitants as have lands in or neere ye said village) to ye maintenence of a minister, & all other publike charges incident to such a village, or else ye foresaid inhabitants, yt have lands neer ye said village, & shall contribute to ye maintenence of a minister yr. & oth'r necessary charges, shalbe freed from all manner of rates, charges, or contributions to ye towne of Ipswich for yr land or stock in or belonging to ye said village."

Mass. Colony Records,  
1 Oct. 1645.

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"The Co'rt haveing consid'red of ye great expence of time occasioned by sev'rall persons bringing their suites to ye Co'rt to be tryed here, thinke it meete that Captain Smyth should pay twenty

nobles for defraying ye charge of ys Co'rt, & ye towne of Ipswich & ye petition'rs of ye Newe Medows should pay 5t for ye time their cause tooke up in ys Co'rt, fifty shill'gs ye towne, & fifty shill'gs ye petition'rs."

Mass. Colony Records,  
18 Oct. 1645.

"The village at the newe medowes at Ipswich is named Topsfeild."

Mass. Colony Records,  
18 Oct. 1648.

Petition to the General Court,

"Wee Humbly Intreate this honored Court that you wold bee pleased to bestowe a name Vpon ou're Village at the new medowes at Ipswich Which wee suppose may bee an Incoragement to others to Come to liue amongst vs: and alsoe a meanes to further a ministry amongst vs wee thinke hempsterd wile bee a fit name if the Court plesse to gratifie vs herewith.

Will Payne,  
Brian Pendleton,  
Zacheous Goold."

Mass. Archives, 112. 9.

(The deputies granted this petition, but the magistrates set the action aside and thought fit "it should be called Topsfield." To this decision the lower court then agreed. G. F. D.)

"Vpon the request of those whom it most concernes, the village at the New Meddowes at Ipswich, shalbe henceforth called Topsfeild."

Mass. Colony Records,  
27 Oct. 1648.

"In answer to the petition of the inhabitants of Topsfeild it is ordered by this Court that from henceforth they shalbe a towne & have power within themselves to order all civill affayres, as other townes haue."

Mass. Colony Records,  
16 Oct. 1650.

"In ans'r to the request of Zacheus Gould and William Howard, in the behalfe of Topsfeild, the Court doth graunt that Topsfeild shall from henceforth be a towne, and haue power within themselus to order all civill affajres, as other townes haue."

Mass. Colony Records,  
18 Oct. 1650.



# TOPSFIELD TOWN RECORDS.

---

March 25, 1659.

Wee hose names are Vnder Wrig-  
hen being Chosen and Impowred by  
the Inhabitancs of Salam and Tops-  
feild to rune the six miles Extent  
and also the deuisionall Line betwene  
the two Townes haue thus agreed  
and determined, namly that wee  
haue rune the six miles Extent Vpon  
the nore west and by nore Which  
ends in the edg of a Swamp of John  
putnams Comonly Called the great  
ashing Swamp next Vnto a hill Com-  
only Called by the name of Wallnut  
tree hill neere Vnto perie Wiggwamb  
and from thence haue thus fare  
agreed Vpon the deuisionall Line  
Which runs Souwest Westerly to the  
riverside Comonly Called by the  
name of Ipswich riuier Where Wee  
marked trees by a rock towards the  
Est and a neck of Land Comonly  
Called Crumwels neck westwardly of  
the said trees marked and from  
thence souwest one mile and a quar-  
ter and so on according to the rule  
that Mr. Joseph Gardner rune the  
aforesaid deuisionall Line, and from  
the six miles extent toward the nor-  
est esterly as it is bounded and  
marked one mile and a quarter end-  
ing at a swamp by a hill Called Smith  
hill and from thence toward the est  
orest ending Vpon a hill neer Vnto  
Whenham Casway, and so toward  
the est and by nore one hundreds  
rods ending at wenham medow side.  
Thomas Putname,

Abraham Redington,  
Nathanill Putname, John Redington,

Joseph Huchenson, John Wildes,  
William Euans.

at A Lawfull Towne meeting the 3  
day of ye 12 m 1659 it is ordred and  
a greed Vpon that Mr. Perkins shall  
haue fifteene acres of Land medow  
and Vpland Lying on the south side  
of a hill Commonly Caled bare hill the  
Vpland of the said Land is by way  
of exchang with ye Towne for a per-  
cell of Vpland Lying betwene Mr.  
Perkins ffield and Mr. Baker house  
and also a percell of swampie Land  
aJoyneing to Mr. Perkins ffield at  
home

Voated.

At a lawful Towne meeting ye 14  
of march 1661. Whereas Zacheas  
Gould at a Towne meeting in febru-  
ary 23 1658 ded then joyne himselfe  
with his estate to ye Towne of Tops-  
field for seuen yeers or terme of his  
life or Vntell a minister be settled in  
Rowley Vilage doth now at a Towne  
meeting giue in his feirme of three  
hundred acres which he bought of  
Mr. William Paine that he now lius  
Vppon to Topsfield the said Zacheas  
Gould by these presants doth for  
himselfe his Executors Administra-  
tors or asignes giue in the aforesaid  
farne into the sad Towne for euer  
with all the priueledges and apurtin-  
ances thereunto belonging.

Witnes my hand, Zacheas Gould.

Voated.

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 14  
of the 10 m 1661 The inhabitants of  
ye Towne hath made choyce of En-  
signe Howlet ffrances pabodye and

John Redington, they are chosen for selectmen for the yeer folowing to order the prudentiall afaires of the towne and to settle the bounds of the towne betwene Salem and Topsfield and also to settle the bounds between the Comen (partage?) and Vs and also where they shall se any wrong done to the towne by any they haue power to rectifie by sute or otherwise

Voted.

It is further ordered and herby they are impowered to lay out fие hundred acre[s] of land on the other side of the riuer to remaine common to perpetuity for the Vse of the inhabitants prouided none of it be medowland

Voted.

It is further ordered that the aforesaid fiehundred acres of land is stated to the inhabitants of the Town excepting Ensigne Howlet as one to share in the said common notwithstanding any former order

Voted.

It is also ordered and the said selectmen are impowered to deuide the other parte of the common both medow and Vpland on the other side of the riuer into three equall deuisions

Voted.

The names of the commoners that shall share in it.

Mr. Bradstreet  
Mr. Perkins  
Zacheas Gould  
Mr. Baker  
Tho' Dorman  
ffrances Pebody  
Willi' Euens  
Dauuell Clark  
Isacc Cumings senr  
Isac Cumings jur

'Tho' Perkins  
Tho' Browning  
Jacob Towne  
Isacc Estey  
Willi' Towne  
Edmond Towne  
Matthew Standly  
Anthony Carell  
ffrances Bates  
John How

Ensigne Howlet

Willi' Smith

Mr. Endicoat

John Wiles

John Redington Rob't Andrews land

Edmond Bredges

Willi' Nicholse

Vselton lot

Lumpkins farme

Voted.

At a meeting of the selectmen march, 10, 166 $\frac{1}{2}$  Whereas Zacheas Gould at a Towne meeting in february ye 23. day 1658. ded then Joyne himselfe with his estat to ye Towne of Topsfield for seuen years or terme of his life or vntell a minister be settled in Rowley Vilag doth now being at a meeting of the selectmen of Topsfield giue his Feirme of threehundred acres wh'ch he liue vpon into Topsfield foreuer with al the priueledges & apurtenances thereunto belonging—Zacheas Gould.

At a lawful Towne meeting ye 14 of march 1661

Whereas Zacheas Gould at a Towne meeting in february 23, 1658 ded then joyne himselfe with his estate to ye Towne of Topsfield for seuen yeers or terme of his life or Vntell a minister be settled in Rowley Vilage doth now at a Towne meeting giue in his feirme of threehundred acres which he bought of Mr. William Paine that he now liues Vpon to Topsfield. the said Zacheas Gould by these presants doth for himselfe his Excetutors Administrators or asignes giue in the aforesaid farme into the said Towne for euer with all the priueledges and apurtinances thereunto belonging—witnes my hand

Voted.

Zacheas Gould.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting the 15 of Jenuary 1663 the Inhabitanee

of Topsfield hath granted ther right  
in a percell of Common Land by  
way of exchange for Land of John  
How aquinalant to the said percell  
of Land to Lye Conuenant to the  
Common for Common, and the said  
Inhabitance hath Chosen ffrainces  
pebody John Wilds and Thomas  
perkins to Lay out the a boue sd Land  
Voated.

The Inhabitance hath a greed  
With Thomas Baker to Exchange  
two acres of Land neere to the  
meeting house for Land aqueuelante  
there vnto neere the sd Thomas Ba-  
ker house, the Towne hath Chosen  
ffrainces pebody and Daniell Houey  
and the sd Thomas Baker hath  
Chosen John Gould and John  
Wilds to Lay out the aboue said  
p'rsells of Land—Voated.

At a lawfull Towne meeting the  
7. march 1664. It is ordered that  
the timber of the fivehundred acres  
of common lands on the other side  
of the riuer which is to remaine  
common to perpetuity is to be de-  
uided by John Wiles Willi Auerell  
Thomas Baker & edmond Towne or  
either three of them into three  
equall proportions as two foure &  
six according to that rule to be de-  
uided  
voted

It is also ordered that al the com-  
monors of the Towne shall haue a  
share in the common on the other  
sid of the riuer with the timber  
which is to be deuided accordin[g] to  
the rule as is here expressed  
namely that thos which pay to the  
minesters rat[e] made in the year  
1664 ; fift shilings & upward shal  
haue one of the greater shares and  
vnder fift shilings to twenty, shal

haue a midle share and vnder twenty  
shilings one of the least shares  
voted

now these are the names of those  
men that ware then Rated that yeare  
1664 and thar saueral soms as tha ar  
in that Rate and rite in this land

Zacheus and John goold	04-03-03
mr thomas baker	03-17-05
danel Clark	01-04-05
thomas darman senr	03-03-00
ffrances pabody	04-05-02
decon houey	01-03-08
william Eeuens	02-11-00
Isack Comings senr	00-13-08
Isack Comings iunar	01-08-00
Ensigne howlat	01-08-09
antoni Carol	00-11-01
thomas perkings	02-19-07
thomas aueril and thomas	01-14-02
hobes on mr brodstreets land	01-03-00
John Redington	03-05-02
thomas browning	01-06-00
John wiles	01-12-10
william smith	00-13-08
Edman bridges	00-15-08
Jacob towne	01-04-05
Isack Este	00-19-06
william towne	00-04-02
and Joseph towne	01-08-05
Edman towne	01-08-09
mathew stanle	00-15-08
william nicoles	01-12-09
mr. William Perkeings	02-03-09
mr Endicot	01-02-00
John how	00-19-00
Robart andros	00-12-00
ffrances bates	00-09-00

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye  
9 desmber 1664. It is ordred and  
agreed Vpon that ye Inhabitance of  
the Towne hath apoyented the first  
third day of march next and so ye  
first third day of march the next

yeare folowing and so from yeare to  
yeare to Continue Vntill such time  
as the Towne shall see Causes to  
alter it, for to Chose ofecers for the  
Carying on ye Townes afares and  
other matters of Concerment which  
nesesarly fales in to be don on that  
day

Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting on  
ye 6 day of march 1665

Ensigne Howlett and Liut Pebody  
are Chosen to Exchange some of  
the Townes Common Land neere to  
Luke Weaklins with Thomas Per-  
kins for Land of his to make his  
Line straight for his Conueniance of  
fencing and not to damnifie the  
Towne

Voated

ffrances pebody Thomas perkins  
and John Redington are Chosen by  
the Inhabitance of the Towne to  
Lay out fifty acres of Land for the  
Vse of the ministrey at Topsfield  
Wee accordingly haue don it Wee  
haue Laid out fifty acres in medow  
and Vpland: where as there is  
sence two e[a]cres of this fflafty it  
being medow Lying betwene mudey  
sprieng and Luke Wakling giuene to  
Mr. Capen sence at a ginerall Towne  
meeting by a ginerall Voate of the  
Towne: and a stripe of medow one  
ye norwest side of bare hill wee  
Layed it for eaight eacrs be it more  
or Less: and a Leuen eacres of  
Vpland one the south side of bare  
hill a Jodining to the house and  
twenty nine eackres of Vpland Liing  
one ye south of mr perkins field that  
is by ye meeting house and a plaine  
Commonly Caled the bare hill plaine  
one ye nore west end and ye Towne  
Common one ye southwest side and  
ye Towne Common one ye east or

southeast end to mr perkins Land.

ffrainces pebody Thomas perkins  
and John Wilds Deputed by the  
Towne to Vew A percell of Land  
Which Edmond Bridges desiered to  
haue of the Towne Wee haue so  
don and bounded it as followeth  
from the Riuers About A Valey that  
is in the Island according as the  
trees are marked A tree that stands  
in A poyn of rockes Close by the  
Riuer and so from tree to tree as  
thay be marked ouer to the sid of the  
Vpland to the other sid of the swamp  
so wee haue marked trees all aLong  
as the swamp goeth as the trees are  
marked to the Riuer Againe at the  
Vpper end of the medow next the  
Bridge, for and in Consideration of  
this Land the said Edmond Bridges  
is to aLowe the Towne thury five  
shilings

the fift 11m 1665 Edmond Bridges

At a Lawfull Townemeeting the  
19 of march 1666-7 ordred by the  
Inhabitance that all fences about  
Corne feilds with in ye bounds of  
the Towne shall be made of ffe  
railes and thay shall be well plased  
and what other fence is set Vp by  
any shall be equielant to a fine  
raile fence and to bee set Vp and in  
good repare by ye twenty of apriell  
next and so to Continue from time  
to time Vntel such time as ye Towne  
see Case to alter it on penaltie of  
paying one shiling a day as a fine  
for euery day defect Isacke Estey  
and William Smith are Chosen to  
Vew the sd fences and take the fines  
the one halfe for the Townes vse  
the other halfe for themselues notwithstanding  
any former Towne order.

Voated

Thomas perkins ffrancies pebody and John Gould are Chosen to Vew and a gree with Daniell Borman for a hie way betwene William Aueriell house and the mill throw his ground as they shall see most Conuenyant

Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 8 of Apriell 1667

The Towne hath granted Liberty to William Aueriell and Daniell Borman to make a dame at the mile brooke a rode and a halfe aboue the bridge to float there medow prouided it be no damige to the Towne

Voted.

ffrancies pebody John Gould and John Redington are Chosen to Vew and Lay out a hie way from the meeting house to Mr Endickat farme soficant for Carts

Voted

At a Lawfull meeting ye 29 of Apriell 1667 It is ordered that ye house and land apionted and Laid out for ye Ves of ye ministerey shall so remaine as aboue said for Euer and that this order be recorded in ye County records

Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 9 of July 1667 The Inhabitance of ye Towne hath Left to ye discretion of the selectmen or maior part of them to Lay out a hie way from ye Common ground Which Lys on ye south sid of mile brooke ouer againts Goodman Dorman and sargt pebodys to Ensigne Howlett brooke notwithstanding any former Towne order Whatsoeuer

Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 31 desember 1667 The Towne hath a greed that homesoeuer shall

ether fale or lope any tree great or smale within twenty pole of the meeting house shall pay to ye Townes Vse twenty shilings for euery such defalt

Voted

The three men namly ffrancies pebody Thomas perkins and John Wilds which were chosen by ye Towne to Exchang a percell of Land with John How, according to our order we haue Exchanged about three acres, wee haue Layed out eaight rods Wide at one end next John How and almost nine rods at the other end, at ye end of Mr perkins Land next John ffranch bordering Vpon the Common.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 13 day nouember, 1668. ffrainces pebody John Gould John Wilds Thomas Baker and Edmon Townes are Chosen thay or ye Maior part of them to Lay out and deuide the Common on Salam side of the Riuier all that Which is to be deuided notwithstanding any former Chouse or Towne order according to the Towne order made in the yeare 1664. Voted.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 15 Jenewory 1668, The Inhabitance of the Towne hath giuen Samuel Howlett an inuitation to Come in to the Towne and set Vp his trade of smithing to doe ye Townes worke

Voated.

apon Consideration yt Samuel Howlett promiseth to ye Towne to Come and set Vp his trade in the Towne and doe there Worke thay haue giuen to him four eacrs of Land Vpon the Common hill next to William Smith and John ffrainch Land

Voted.

Thomas perkins John ffanch & John Redington are Chosen to Lay ont the a boue said fouer eacrs of Land to Samuel Howlett

Wee Whose Names are Under Wrighteen being Chosen by the Towne ye 13 of Nouember 1668 to deiuede ye Common one Salam side of ye Riuver all that Which is to bee deiuded notwithstanding any former Chouch or Towne order according to the Towne order made in ye yeare 1661: and according to the Rule ye Towne apointed in ye yeare 1664. to deuide ye Common by wee haue don et as foileth in to three Deuisions as ye Towne ordered in ye yeare 1664 and as there seuerall proportions was by there Rate to ye minister in ye yeare 1664 hee that paid ffiuty shilings one of ye great shares and hee that paid vnder ffiuty to twenty one of ye midell shares and hee that paid vnder twenty shilings a singell share :

The Land Lyes in two parcell the forst part is Bounded Twowards ye West with mr Endickat Land and Twowards ye south with ffarmer porters Land aud Twowards the east with Joseph Porters Land and Salam Line and Twowards ye North with ye Cowe Comman beLonging to Topseild. The seckond parcell is bounded with Mr Endickat Land Twoward ye North and Twowards ye Weast with ye Riuver Commonly Caled Ipswich Riuver and Twowards ye south with Land that Lliut Thomas Putnam Layes Clame to & Land of William Hobes and easterly with ye land of ffarmer porter & William Hobes his Land: and where wee did find parson or parsons that

ware Dead or had sould them selves out of ye Towne before wee deuided ye Land we Layed ye deuision of Common Land that was ordered to bedeuied to ye Inhabatants in ye yeare 1661 to ye Land of those that ware entred in ye Towne Booke Namely Zacheus Gould was Dead wee Layed his deuision to his Land and seuerall others that ware ether Dead or eles had sould all there housing and Land in Topsfield wee Layed out noe Land to any that was gone out of ye Towne but to ye Land that they had or did Liue one in Topseild when the acte was past by ye Towne in ye yeare 1661.

The Bredth of ye Lots in the yt first deuision is as foileth beging at mr endichat Land

- 1 forst lot is six rod short of ye Bound tree betweene ye Cow Common & ye Lot.
- 2 Lot is twenty 6 rod brode
- 3 lot is twenty two rod brod
- 4 lot is ninteeene rod brod
- 5 lot is sixteene rod brod
- 6 lot is foorteeene rod brod
- 7 lot is threeteen rod brod
- 8 lot is tweuele rod brod
- 9 lot is a Leunn rod & ahalf broad
- 10 lot a Leauene rod brod
- 11 lot is ten rod & ahalf broad
- 12 lot is ten rod broad
- 13 lot is nine rod & three quarters brod
- 14 lot is nine rod & fve foot brod
- 15 lot is nine rod & fve foot brod
- 16 lot is eaight road & a halfe broad
- 17 lot is eaight rod & an a quarter brod
- 18 lot is eaight road broad
- 19 lot is senene road an three quartere broad

20 lot is seuene road an three quarters  
 broad  
 21 lot is seuene rod & a halfe brod  
 22 lot is seuene rod an a halfe brod  
 23 lot is six rod an three quarters brod  
 24 lot is six rod an a quarter brod  
 25 lot is six rod and halfe a quarter  
 brod  
 26 lot is six rod an halfe a quarter  
 brod  
 27 lot is six rod an two foot brod  
 28 lot is six rod brod  
 29 lot is six rod wanting two ffoot  
 30 lot is ffeue rod an twelle ffoot brod  
 31 lot is ffeue rod an Leuene foot four  
 enchies  
 32 lot is ffeue rod an ten foot  
 33 lot is ffeue rod an nine foot  
 34 lot is ffeue rod an eaight foot an a  
 halfe  
 35 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 36 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 37 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 38 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 39 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 40 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 41 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 42 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 43 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 44 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 45 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 46 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 47 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 48 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 49 lot is ffeue rod an a halfe  
 the 47 lot and ye 48 lot an ye 49 lot  
 is to haue all ye Land from y[e] 46  
 lot to Joseph porters Line and Salam  
 Line to Joseph porter marked tree a  
 Littell wayes of wheele brooke at ye  
 Norwest end of his ye sd porter  
 farme and these three Lots namely  
 ye : 47 : 48 : 49 : Lot is to bee ffeue  
 rod an a halfe broad apace apon ye

## Cow Common

50 lot is twenty rod broad beccase  
 ye Land shortens  
 51 lot is twenty two rod broad  
 52 lot is twenty fouer rod broad  
 53 lot is to haue all to Joseph porter  
 Line of that deuistion of Land  
 54 lot is to rune downe by ye Coue  
 Common and but one ye medoe downe  
 twards Deckon Thomas perkins ye  
 bread of et is ten rod and et dos but  
 at ye other end a gaints ye 58 lot.  
 55 lot ruing by ye sid of ye 54 lot  
 being ten rod broad  
 56 lot rueing as ye a boue sd being  
 ten rod broad  
 57 lot rueing as ye a boue sd lots  
 being ten rod broad  
 58 lot is twelue rod broad  
 59 lot is ffeueeteene rod broad be-  
 cause wee conseane et dos shorten by  
 Joseph porters Land and Salams  
 Land

There is a smale stripe of Land  
 Left by ye Last Lot and Salam  
 Line ye meing is et tis betwene ye  
 59 lot and Salam Line :

The seckond deuistion being that  
 wee Cale Stickey medoe begining mr  
 endickat ffarne vp to that Land as  
 Lliut Thomas putman Layes Clame  
 the Lots butting apon farmer porter  
 Land and soe ruing to ye Riuier Caled  
 Ipswich Riuier wesword

there is ffeuty ffeue of these Lots Laid  
 out ffeue rod and a halfe broad these  
 ffeutey ffeue Lots but one ffarmer porter  
 Land being at ffeue rod and a halfe  
 broad at that end and at ye Riuier  
 fouer rod an a halfe broad there is  
 fouer Lots more that dos but apon  
 William Hobes is Land and at Will:  
 Hobes Land thay are seuenteene rod  
 an a halfe broad so Ruiing vp to

Lliut Thomas putnam Line.

Wee whos hands are vnder wrigh-  
teen do Testifie that wee haue Laid  
out ye Lots as is here in expresed

Witness our hands

Dated march 1668      John Gould  
                           Thomas Baker  
                           John wills  
                           francies pabody

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye  
2 march 1668 or 69.

The Towne hath a greeed that it  
shall be Leagall waring for Euery  
Teme or parson that is warned to  
hie way work by the seruaiers or  
there order, the seruaiers or ther  
order shall giue two dayes or two  
nights at Least waring to euerey teme  
and person thay shall warne into hie  
way worke, and farder the Towne  
hath ordred yt any teme warned as  
aboue said by ye seruaiers or there  
order, shall refuse or niglect to  
atend the Townes seruies which  
they are thus Caled Vnto Shall pay  
seuene shiling for each dayes niglect  
as afine for ye Townes Vese, and  
also the parsons so warned as aboue  
said, and shall refuse or niglect ye  
seruies thay are Caled to doe shall  
pay as afine for ye Towne Vse two  
shillings six pence a man for euerey  
day niglect the which fines the ser-  
uayers shall gather Vp with out  
parshaliety and give in thre a Counte  
to ye Towne at a Towne meeting

Voted.

The Towne hath exceppected Wil-  
liam Nicklas and John Nicklas and  
William Hobes from hie Way  
worke in ye Towne apon Considra-  
tion thay liue remoate: and apon  
Condition thay mak there one hie  
wayes to Topsfeid Bridge nere to share whether singell dobell or

Joseph Towns his house      Voted.

It is also ordered and agreed apon  
With Ensigne Thomas Howlett that  
thay will make and maintaine a  
bridge ouer ye Brooke by Ensignes  
house in ye way as wee goe to Ips-  
wich ye one halfe to be don by the  
Towne and the other halfe by ye sd  
Ensigne

Voted.

At a Towne Meeting ye 11 of ye  
3m. 1669. Liut ffainces pebody  
Ensigne John Gould Edmond  
Townes Thomas Baker & John  
Wilds being Chosen to deuide ye  
Common on ye other side of ye  
River: accordingly haue don it and  
declared ye same to ye Towne at a  
Towne meeting and is excepted by  
ye Towne

Voted.

and also they haue agreed to Cast  
Lotes for it that euery one There by  
may know what is his Chare and  
Where it Lyes

Voted

The Towne hath ordered yt the  
highway which Lyeth on ye south  
sid of Mr perkins his house and Lot  
ffrom William Aueriell house to ye  
Common shall be Laid downe and  
one other Way one ye north side of  
the said house and Land shall be  
Laid out and ye Towne has Chosen  
Liut ffainces pebody Ensigne John  
Gould and Thomas perkins to Lay  
ont ye said hieway

Voted.

The Inhabitance being meet to gath-  
er to Cast Lotes yteuery one yt batha  
share in ye Common Land may know  
what his share is and where it Lyes,  
the Lots which are Cast are in order  
as foloweth the first Lot which is  
next Mr Endickat medow and the  
Cow Common and yt euerey mans

share whether singell dobell or

trebelle shall Ly to gather in Each ffraances Bates share 19  
denision to each party, ye florst John Wilds 80  
Lot fales to Zacheus Gould Land ye 2 John Redington 20  
to Vsaltoms Land ye 3 to William Tho : perkins 24  
Nicklas ye 4 to Jacob Townes ye 5 Tho : Browning 23  
to John Redington ye 6 to Isacke John How 19  
Comings Jur ye 7 to Mr Bakerz Zacheus Gould share [h]is Land 01  
Land ye 8 to Thomas Dorman ye 9 Jacob Townes 04  
to John Wilds ye 10 to William Isacke Estey 05  
Smith ye 11 to Thomas Browning ye 12 to Mr Endickat ye 13 to mathu William Townes 06  
Stanley ye 14 to Antony Carell land Edmond Townes 21  
ye 15 to Isacke Estey ye 16 to ffraances Bates Land ye 17 to Mr Mathu standly 18  
Bradstreet Land ye 18 to Thomas Anthony Carell share to his Land  
perkins ye 19 to Robard Androws in ye Towne is 07  
Land ye 20 to Llumkins Lot ye 21 Edmond Bridges share to his  
to Edmon Townes the 22 to William house and Land in ye Towne  
Euenes Land ye 23 to Joseph Townes is in 09  
ye 24 to John How ye 25 to Edmond Will Nicklas 22  
Bridges house that he had had in  
Topseild in the year 64 ye 26 to  
to ffrainces pebody ye 27 to mr per-  
kins ye 28 to Daniell Clarke ye 29  
to Ensigne Howlett ye 30 to Isacke  
Comings senr and as for ye Lots of  
the other denision which ye stickey  
medow is part of is Loted out after  
this order as faleth to each party or  
each partyes Land as there seuerall  
Lots Ly 2 : 3 & 4.

Mr Bradstreet share to his Land is  
nomber 03 Mr Endickat share to his  
Land is 25

Mr Perkins	16
Mr Baker	12
15	
ffraances pebody	29
Will Euenes share	27
Daniell Clarke	02
Isacke Comings senr	13
Isacke Comings Jur	14
Ensign Howlett	08
Will Smith	17

At a Llawfull Towne meeting 15th  
Nouember 1669. Jacob Townes &  
Joseph Townes are Chosen to Lay  
out a highway ffrom ye Bridge ouer  
ye Riuer by William Townes of one  
pole wide to William Nicklas ffarne  
Which he Liue apon and also to  
William Hobes Land Voted.

Jacob and Joseph Townes being  
Chosen to Lay out a highway from  
the Bridge ouer ye riuer by William  
Townes of one pole Wide to William  
Nicklas ffarne which he Liues apone  
and also to William Hobes haue  
acordingly don it.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 8  
of Jenewary 1670, The Towne hath  
ordered ye Clarke to record the  
Lots Which are one ye other side  
of the riuer according to the derex-  
tions that ye Commity Chosen for  
the Laying out of ye said Lots shall

derecete him

Voted.

Lliut ffrainces pebody Ensigne John Gould and Thomas perkins being Chosen by ye Towne to Lay out a highway through part of William Aueriell Land and through part of Daniell Borman Land to the Northward side of Mr perkins his home feild haue accordingly don it ye Which highway is Laid out from the Vpper End of William Aueriell orchard one rod an a halfe wide to ye afore said northward side of Mr perkins his feild and so through Daniell Borman Land one ye northward sid of Mr perkins feild to the former highway againe.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 7 march 1670 or 71.

The Towne has impowered the se-lectmen to petition to the Court to git ye Bridge ouer ye Reiuers by old Goodman Townes to be maintained one ye County a Count. Voted

The Towne is willing that Lliut pebody should set vp a saw mille prouided it dos not doe damige to any of the Towne men in there med-owes

Voted

It was Voated that ye Towne should yearly Chose there Clarke for ye Towne and also there select-men by papers

The Towne has granted Liberty and impowered ye selectmen in the behalfe of ye Towne to agree with Lliut pebody about the Riges Ether by saile or rent as thay see good

Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 14 noumber 1671. The Inhabitance of Topsfeild has mainfested by a Voate that thay doe not desier that our Neaghahers of ye Vilige which dos

ordenerly here the Word of god amongst vs should pay or be Charged With ye maintaing of it in Topsfeild noe Longer then till it please god thay be abell to maintaine ye word a mongst themselues and haue a minister settled amongst themselues for to despence ye word of God to them

Voted

At a Llawfull Towne meeting ye 5 march 1671 or 72.

The Towne has also Voated that ye Viligers shall haue Lliberty to set Vp a house for to shelter there horses in neere to ye meeting house Where ye selectmen and thay shall thinke fite or most Conuineat and also a house for to shelter them-selues in with a fier in it duering so Longe as thay doe Contriubute to ye ministerey here in Topsfield accord-ing to what thay haue mencned Vnder there hands and also the Towne has admited and aLowed of ye Viligers to haue a Voce and Coyce of a ministerey here in Topsfeild as the Towne themselues haue during the time of there Contriubuting to ye ministerey in Topsfeild

Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 18 : 1 m : 71 or 72. The Towne dos grant to Deckon Howlett Lliut pebody and Isacke Estey Joseph Towns Corpr edmond Townes and Thomas Baker all the swampe medow that Lyeth apon ye Riuers Caled Ipswich Riuer extending from the Lower part of the Gouners medow downe to the bridg that goeth ouer ye riuer be Low old Goodman Townes for an in Consideration of fifty pounds ye Towne hath Reseuued of the aboue named parties this medow here in mencned Lyeth one the south side of

## Ipswich riuver

Acording to a Towne order and as ye Towne had impowered vs at a Towne meeting ye seuenth of march 1670 or 71. Wee accordingly haue don it. Wee the selectmen haue sould to Lliut pebody the Riges that is fenced in and ye bounds of it as ye fence now stands ye Riges Lyes one ye south side of ye brooke againts his orchard, the which hee is to a low twenty five shilings for ye riges, and he has discounted with Vs ye selectmen ye twenty five shilings for ye Vese of ye Towne.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 4 march 1672 or 73 It is ordred yt ye seelectmen shall haue power to Lay out ye bounds where the fence shall stand by the medow side for John Houey upon ye south west side of ye brooke.

Voted.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye selectmen ye 30 Aprell 1673. It is ordred and a greed vpon that all Swine shall be Ringed sofiantly from time to time from ye pobilitacior of this order till the 15 of Nouember and Euerey swine that shall bee found not Ringed from a quarter ould and Vpward shall forfe[t] six pence also it is a greed that all swine shall bee yoaked that dos damige by breakeing into Corne feild and passter throe sofiant fences after noties giuene to ye owneres of such swine thay not sped[ily] yoaking them shall forfeit one shiling for euery swine and after noties giuene to ye oneres of such swine thay shall forfeit twelue pence for euery day till thay yoake them and such swi[ne] shall be kept yoaked tell Indan haruies be ended this order is to stand from

Voated

time to time tell ye Towne see Case to alter it not with standing any formar order.

Voated.

Mickall Dunell is Chosene by ye seelectmen to Looke to ye yoaking and ringing of hoges and ye sd Doniell is to haue one halfe of ye forfeite for his payenes as is expresed in ye order aboue Wrighteen the other halfe hee is to returne to ye selectmen

Voated.

At a meeting of ye selectmen ye 14 of 11 m: 1673. John Gould & ye selectmen Came to a recking and did cleare all a Counts from ye beging of ye World to this day the selectmen giueing John Gould his Towne rate this yeare as ye date aboue make mention of and ye sd Gould dos a quite ye Towne of all detes dues and demands, and ye fifty shilings that ye Court at Ipswich did order ye sd Gould to take of the Towne so that ye selectmen, in ye behalfe of the Towne dos Cleare John Gould of all that has bin paid to ye sd Gould by Constabell or Collecters or any that has bin apionted by ye Towne or selectmen to pay any thing to John Gould ye selectmen being Lliut pebody Thomas perkins Thomas Baker Edmon Townes and this is or a greement as witnes our hands ye day and yeare aboue Wrighteen and Sargt Bixby dete is in Cluded that ye Towne dos owe ye sd Bixby which is fife pounds that should be paid to ye sd Gould, the selectmen giueing ye sd Gould power to demand of the said John Houey Constabell for ye yeare 72 the fife pounds that was put into ye Towne rate and Committed to him to gather Vp and if ye sd Houey dos refuse to

pay it to ye sd Gould then Wee ye seelectmen doe Ingage to giue ye sd Gould power to sue for it the sd Gould guieing the seelectmen a noat to Sargt Bixby to take Vp there bill and ye sd Gould will delieur Vp Sargt Bixby bill to him as witnes or hands this 14: 11 m: 1763.

Witnes, John Gould  
 John Commings ffrancis pebody  
 John How in ye name of ye rest  
 of ye selectmen.

I Thomas Baker doe binde my selfe to ye selectmen on a bond of sixty foure pounds to see the rate that they haue by warrant vnder ther hands Commited to mee to gather vp for mr Hubbord I doe by these presant in gage as is aboue sd to ye select men to see that et shall be deleuered to mr Hubbord I haueing ye ouer pluch of ye rate for my paynes as witnes my hand this 19 day of Jenewary 1674. I the sd Tho: Baker doe ingage to pay to mr Hubbord 61 lb. [3] s and what ye rate dos a mount to more I ame to haue for my paynes I doeing et by ye Last of July after ye date aboue sd.

Thomas Baker.

a Rate made ye 9 day of febuary  
 in ye yeare 1674 to defray ye Townes  
 detes and giuen to ye Constabell of  
 Topsfeild or his deputy to gather vp  
 and pay as derestion is giuen to  
 them ye rate dos a mount to 28lb  
 08s 03d ye which thay stand in deted  
 to ye Towne tell they haue discharged  
 ye rate and then thay shall be dis-  
 charged

ye detes is 26lb 11s 08d  
 so that ye ouer plush of ye 28lb 08s  
 03d from 26lb 11s 08d and there rest

to ye Towne 01lb 16s 03d  
 John how. Constabel.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 3 march 1673 or 74.

The Towne has Left it to ye selectmen to settell the bounds betwene the Townes Land and that ffairme as was Mr Whittinggons. Voted

The propriaters haue Chosen the Lote Layeres or ye maior part of them to Record how thay Laid out ye Lotes one ye south side of ye riuier Whether to housing & Land or to ye parsons that did Liue in the housing in ye year 61: with ye brevth and Lenth of euery Lote.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting the 19 of agust 1674. The Towne made Chose of Isacke Comings senr and Ensigne John Gould and Lliut ffrainces pebody to bound the medow that old Goodman Gould sould for ye Towne to seuerall of our Neaibores, wee the ffore named persons haue bounded ye medow in manner as fol- eth. Wee begane to marke trees at ye Clay pits there ye medow begins there wee marked two trees one Whiat oake betwene ye Clae pites and ye rieu and a nother tree neere to ye Clay pites one ye south sid one ye egge of ye Vpland and a great Elme marked by ye Vpland side West from ye Clay pites and so a Longe with marked trees by ye Up- land side tell wee Came neere to Mr Endickat medow these are ye bounds of that medow that Lyeth one the south sid ye rieu Caled Ipswich rieu a Joying to ye rieu from mr Endickat farme doun to the Clay pites neere to the Bridge by Joseph Townes house.

Thomas perkins bounds betwene his Land at Billingate and the Townes Common Land, the first tree marked is a popler tree neere the medow Caled Robard Smith medow and a heape of stones from thence southeast two a swamp where there is two popler trees marked with a heape of stones betwene them and from thence to a smale wall nuttree neere to a swampe marked with a heape of stones at it; from thence to a smale Whiat oake in a swamp marked and a heape of stones at it neere to the Corner of berzilah Barkers Land.

John Wilds his bounds betwene the Towne Land and his, a great whiate oacke marked from thence to a Littell blake ocke marked and a heape of stones at it from thence to a heape of stones and two wallnuts trees marked from thence to a stake and a heape of stones and three Littell trees marked that stands neere to ye stake & heape of stones from thence to an eleme tree marked in a swampe neere the south side of the swamp from thence to a heape of stones behind William perkins house from thence to a nother heape of stones which is the Corner betwene William perkins and John How

John How bounds from a heape of stones that are the Corner bounds betwene him and William perkins from thence to a heape of stones that are about two rode and a halfe of his barne from thence to a heape of stones neere his dweling house and from thence to where he Joynes to Goodman Clarke.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye selectmen ye 1 June 1675.

Isack Estey and John Robinson and Jacob Townes are Chosen and apioynted to Vew the Way one ye south sid of ye Riuer and to a Low of it as thay shall see good that Way as goeth to Salam that is Complained of.

Voted

this is a trew Cope of a Recet that Edman towne twoke of the Contre tresarer mr Rusil as a discarg of a contre rate that was mad and Comited to him to gather vp being Constabel.

Edmand towne Constabel of topsfeild hath paid to mee twelue pounds fие shilings and seuen pence which is in full of thare townes proporcione of the Cuntry Rate for the yere 1674. witnes mi hand the 4 iii mo. 1675.

by me Ricard Rusil treasurar

ther is a Rate mad by the selectmen the 3 of august 1675 for the defraing of our townes proporcione of a singel Contre Rate dobeled acording to warant that we Receued from the Contre tresurer.

this Rate Comited to the Constabel iohn how is twenti fие pound six penc.

at a lafull meeting of the Selectmen the 8 of saptember 1675 wee hau agreed to mak a stone wall aboute the meetting hous for fort \*  
 \* \* the wall is to be three foote brod in the botom and fие foot hie  
 \* \* or six as shall be thote most Conueniant with a watch hous at the south est Corner with in this wall ten foot square this is to be don by the towne and except such as do vsalli Com to her the word preached at or in our meeting hows will halp the towne most do it at thar one charge.

this wall is to be ten foote from the meeting hous side and ende but on the south side it is to be twelue foot be twene this wall and the hous and the wach hows Cornar is to be fore foot from the hous end."

ther is a Rate Comited to John how Constabel a singel Contre Rate that a mountes to a leuen pound ten shilins and three penc.

also ther is a nother Rate Comited to John how Constable that is demanded by warant from the Contri treserar that a mountes to seuen singel Contre Rates which som is Eighte fore pound and seauenteene shilens.

at a meeting of the select men the 10 of Januari 1675 ther was a Rate Comited to John how Constable for the minester which Rate amountes to sixte on pound one shilin and two penc for the sad Constable to gather in spedeli for the mantananc of our minister 60 pound is his due the Remander is for the townes use.

John how Constabel of topsfeild hath payd in to the treserar of the Contrey the 8 october 1675 fore and twente pounds eleuen shiligs and two pence in full of the sad townes proporcion to the two extreordenari Rates due to the Contre the last of october last past as the some is allowed on for 66.

p. me. Richard Rusil treserar.

at a lawfull meeting of the selackt men ther was a Rate Comited to John how Constable for to gather and pay in to the Contre traserar for our townes proporcion being Eighte fore pound this is Recorded befor in in a nother plac the whol Rate is Eighte fore pound seauenteene shilings.

at a Lawfull Towne Meting the 7 of March 1675-76. Left. ffraunce pabody is Chosen Clark to kep the Towne Book this yere:

at a lawfull towne meeting the 7 of march 1675-76 its agreed that select men shall be chosen bi nomenacion this yere and vote[d].

at a lawfull towne meeting the 7 march 1675-76 mr thomas baker and Epherom dorman and sargan Redington and francis pabody and decon perkens all of them are Chosen to be select men for to order the prendancell afares of the towne this yeare Insuing.

John How is Chosen Constabell for this yere in suing and voted 1675-76. Jacob towne Is Chosen to sarue one the Juri of trialls at Ipswich Corte next in suing.

7 march daniel borman and Isack Este ar Chosen soruaures of huaues and fences for this yeare in suing and voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting 7 march 75 it is granted that samuel howlet and John french william perkens iuner and micall donell that thay shall be Comenars as other freeholder are In our Coman land for feed and other preulieges voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting the 7 march 1675-76. sargan Redington and John wiles and frances pabody ar Chosen a comite for the towne to agree with mr thomas backer to axchang a strip of land that lies aiyoyning to the sad mr bakers land and also to satel the boundes of his farme voted.

at a lawfull meeting 7 march 75 it is ordered that the select men shall see

that the olde book the towne book shall be transcribed into the new book and that the land on the south sid the Reuer that was layed out by deuisians to the seueral inhabetants the select men shall see that ther lots be Recorded acording as tha ware lade out voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the selacktmen the forthenth da Juli. 76, ther was Comited to John how Constabel a Rate for the defraing of ten singel Rates which Rate amountes to a hondered and twente pound for the said Constabel to colackt and gather of the saueral parsons Ratabel and cari it in to the Contre treserar.

20. 7. 1675. at a lawfull meeting of the towne Isack Comins senar is Chosen graniuri man for this yeare Insuing also William Auiril is Chosen to sarue on the Jurie of trials at Ipswich Corte next Insuing.

at a meeting of the selackt men the 29 of desamber 1676 ther is a Rate for the minester Comited to the Constabel John how to gather vp and care in to mister hobart his due is sixte pound but the Rate amountes to sixte two pound and about twelue shilins.

Reseued this: 13th: 3d: 75. of Ephraim Dorman Constable of Topsfeild in full their Townes proportion to the Cuntry Rate for one singgle Rate and three quorters the some of nineteen pounds eight shilings and six pence.

I say reseued for the yeare 73.  
by me  
Rishard Russell Treasurer.

Mr Hobard 11lb: 2s: 0d

Mr Russells 8lb: 6s: 6d

this is a true Coppy of the trasurrs reseight taken by me

frances pabody Clarke  
dated the 29 of January 1676.

this fift of febrnari 1676 ther is a Rate for the defraing of Indian ware Charges Containing six singel Contrates Rates which amounteth to fifte three pound and sixteene shilens this Rate is delivered to John How Constabel for to gather vp and deleuer to the Contre tresarer or his assigns acordingli as he hath diracion In the tresares warrant.

at a lawfull towne meeting march 2. 1676—77 Isack Comings senr. is Chosen moderator this present meeting voted.

it is agreed that the select men shall be Chosen by nominacion not with standing ani formor ord'r voted.

it is agreed that the Clarke shal be Chosen bi nominacion this day for this yeare insuing—voted not with standing ani formor order.

Leftenant Pebody is chosen Clarke for the yeare inseuing voted.

John how is Chosen Constabel for the yeare insuing voted.

the towne hath granted to John how a slip of land to John how of two rod and half brod at his barn and to Com to nothing at his stak at his bond stak to wards the bridg bi goodman Clarks.

Ensigne goold sargent towne decon perkeings John Redington and frances pabody ar Chosen selectmen for the yere in suing - - - - voted.

John Comings is Chosen to sarue on the Juri of trials the naxt Cort at Ipswich - - - - voted.

John french and John Robeson  
are Chosen seruares for hiwas to  
see that thay be mad pasabel as the  
law requires - - - - voted.

the seruares hau powr and here by  
ar impouered to tak or destrane there  
fines for not atending the mending  
hiwaes after legall warning two  
shilings six penc for eueri dayes  
neglact thay hauing two dayes warn-  
ing - - - - voted.

John Houey and Samuel Howlat  
ar Chosen to see to the mending  
fences that thay see that thay be as  
town orders Require

the town hath agreed to Chang a  
bout half anacor of vpland for  
somoth madoo with Edman towne  
decon perkeings and frances pabody  
ar Chosen to see it don - - - - voted

Received october the 22th 1676  
from John how Constabel of Tops-  
feeild for the yeare 1675 the som of  
Eleuen pownd ten shilings and three  
pence in some that being in full of  
that townes singel Rate for the a for  
saide yere as witnes mi hand as  
Exectelor to my honored father  
Richard Rusill late tresarer

James Rusill

This is a trew Cope of the Con-  
stabel John how his Recet that he  
brot from the tresarers Execttor.

pr mee frances pabody Clarke  
1676.

thare is a towne Rate made the  
three and twenteth of februari for  
the defraing of all towne debtes as  
alsoe whot is yet oing to mr. gilbert.

At a lawfull towne meeting march  
the 7. 1676—77 the towne hath  
granted to william perkeings iunar  
two acors of vpland liing betwene  
his one house and the swamp that  
strip of land that was axchanged for-

mali with william perkeings for land  
that John how had of t[h]e towne  
and the for sayd willi perkeings is  
to pay three pownd in Corant pay to  
the towne voted.

the towne hath agreed with John  
Robeson to sweep the meeting hows  
and he is to haue twenti five shilings  
a yeare.

also he is to dig graues for such  
as shall Requir him and he is to haue  
three shilins six penc for al graues  
abou for foot long and two and six  
penc for al vnde[r].

the towne granted to exchang a  
smal strip of land with sargen towne  
at alawfull towne meeting march 2  
1676—77 the towne made Coyse of  
decon perkens and frances pabody  
to see it don and thay the afor said  
men on the sixth of aperill did goe  
and see it don and it is thus don  
from a whit oke marked on the  
southe sid of the sad Edman townes  
madoo land to a small popeler in a  
line or strait Corse and that popeler  
is his bound Cornar tree next to the  
Coweman and from that popeler strat  
to the Reuer where there is a small  
Red oke marked.

In august 1676 thare was a Rate  
made and Comited to John how Con-  
stab[el] to gather vp and pay into  
the tresarer or his asignes the Rate  
is six singel Contre Rates which som  
amontes to fifte three pound and  
thirteene shilins.

at a meeting of the select men  
Januari 4 1677 ther is Comited to Jo  
how Constable two Rates on is the  
singel Contre Rate which amontes  
to nine pound two shilens and Eight  
penc the other Rate is the moni Rate  
which is two singel Contre Rates  
which amontes to Eightene pound

five shileings and fore penc which stak sat and a heap of Rokes lad Rates the Constabel is to gather vp of the saueral parsons Ratabel and pa it in to the Contre tresarer or his asignes.

where as the towne mad Coyse of sargent Redington and John wiles seenar and frances pabody to agree with mister baker about exchange of a small strip of land about three acores and a half which the afor named men haue don the land that mister baker hath of the townes land lieth against his hous in part as it is layd out and the bredth at the Est end is ten Rod wide and a half from the Cornar of his wall which is the bounds of it at the Est ward Cornar and his lin is to Ron from that Corno[r] of his land to a grat whit oke about twente and five Rod distanc souwest ner to the hiwa that lieth or ledath from the falles bridg to the meeting howse and from that whit oke vp the hill as the fence Rones that is now standing which is a hadg and to go strat from the End of that fenc to a grat Rad oke which is marked and at that tree the land mr baker hath of the towne comes to a poynted wedg, now the bowndes of mr bakers land is neer along bi the way from the for sade oke to a small oke marked neer the hiwa as goes or comes from or to the meeting hous and from that small oke twente and on Rod towardes the meeting hous wher the afore named men did agree with mr baker that his bound Cornor of his farm should be now this on and twente Rod from the small oke to the bound stake and from this bound stak fifte and fore Rod strat on in mr bakeres line west ward from the meeting hous where was a

about the stake Rit in a beaten hiway and from this stak and heap of stones Rit in a line to the afor named small oke now this is the land the towne hath of mr baker twente one Rod brod fifte and for Rod long Coming to a poynted wedg at the end of fifte fore Rod now the boundes of mr bakeres land from the bound stake and heap of stones that is at the End of the land the towne hath of mr baker from that stak and heaps of stones Rit in a line to a marked tree at the foot of the bridg nere to Ephrom dormans hous.

20 June 1677.

the seclct men of Topsfeild doe aLow a blake rone horse of John Gould to bee alikely horse aCording to Law to rune apon ye Commons.

June 1677.

John Comings is Chosen graniure man for the naxt Cort heeld at Ips-weech.

August 26 1677.

John french is Chosen to sarue on the Juri of trialls the naxt Cort hild at Ipswich.

Kno al parsons by these presants that I doe acquitt and discharge the towne of topsfeild of and from thare three first Rates of sixte pound pr anom for my labors in the ministrey thare I sa I doe fulli acquitt thare three Rates for ann 72, 73, 74, and haue receued them trewli and fulli as witnes my hand

Jerimi hobart.

may 3da 1677 in presence of Thomas baker John how who ware apoynted by the selct men to account the Rates aforesaid with my selfe as tha say.

Boston this : 17 : of march : 1678.

Received of frances Pebody the just sum of four pounds in mony and is in full to pay the subscription to the contribution for the new buleding for the Colledge j say Received by me william Manning: wittnes Henry Bartholmew. which for pownd j frances pabody Received of the Constabel Samuel Houlat witnes my hand  
frances pabody.

at a Meeting of the freemen the 22 of the 2 mo 1679, Sargent John Redington was Chosen gran Juriman for the yeare Insing voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the 14 iune 1679. thay hau worke at mr hubba[rts] to make a hage fence shall pay two shiling six penc a day from sixteene yeare ould and vpward as the law doth not free.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men John how was Chosen to sarue on the Jurie of triales the naxt Cort that is to be heeld at Ipswich, 13, da of saptember 1680. voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select men 13 of the 7 month 1680; a writing to John hunkin to fore warne him of Coming to be an inhabetant in oure towne.

at a lawfull towne meeting the forth of may 1681, Isack este senar was Chose to be graniure man fo the [y]eare insuing voted.

We whos names are under writen hauing power from the Towne to settell bounds with those that Joyne on our Common: we haue a cordingly agreed with mr Timmothy Pirkins; that all the upland and medow: that is within his fence at this time Jenuary ye 5th 1686: in the field by the meeting hous nere bare hill: shall be

and Remaine to him and his heirs foreuer, and the fence as it now stands shall be his bounds and that it shall be entered in our Towne book; for the which he the said Timmothy Pirkins doth in iage to pay two pounds eleuen shilings

Thomas Baker

John How

Jacob Towne

one and twenty of that a boue mentioned is mony I am sertenly informed by Mr. Thomas baker and Mr. Timmothy Pirkins.

Ephraim dorman.

Decn Isaac Comings Constable of Topsfield for the yeare one thousen six hundred and eighty six, I say reseued of him ye full of that rate which was made for my use for ye year aforesaid and committed to him to collect I say reseued of him for that yeare in full for what was committed to him to gather

by me Joseph Capen.

dat Jan 26 : 169 $\frac{1}{2}$

this is a true copy entered pr me Ephraim Dorman

Recorder for Topsfield.

reseued ye full of ye rate for ye yeare 85 by the hand of Elisha Pirkins constable, witnes my hand

Joseph Capen.

May 21 :88 this is a true copy entered pr me

Ephraim Dorman Clarke.

Charlstowne 18th march 1690 : or 91.

then Reseued of mr John Towne Constable of Topsfield three twenty shilling bills of credit and thirty six shillings in mony and is in full of ye two mony rates and a halfe of said Towne ye wholl was the remainder four pounds sixtene shillings I say

reseued pr John Phillips Treasurer  
Copia Vare—Ephraim Dorman  
Towne Clarke.

Charlstowne ye sixth of may 1691.

Reseued of mr John Towne Cunstable of Topsfield eighty pounds in bills Charged on said Constable and bills of Creadit as mony in full of ye ten rates which he was to Colect of ye inhabitence of said Towne by worrent bareing date ye 2 of Aprill 1690. I say reseued pr John Phillips Treasurer.

Copia Vare—atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke

Charls Towne ye 16 desember 1692  
the[n] Reseued of mr John Towne Cunstable of Topsfield ye sum of ninety pounds five shillings and one penny as mony in pt of ye twenty Rates of said Town. I say Reseued pr John Phillips Treasurer

Copia Vare—atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

Boston fabruary 22:1693-4.

Reseued of mr John Towne Constable of Topsfield ten shillings and six pence bill of Creadit and four pounds four shillings and five pence by discount for my master James Tailor Treasurer in full of ye twenty Rates of said Townes asesment  
04:14:11 pr Jaremiah Allin

Copia Vare—atest Ephraim Dorman Clarke.

at a meeting of the select men the forth of Januari 1677. there was a Rate Comited to Ensigne goold and John how for to gather vp and pay in to the ministar mister hobart. tha ar to pay to the ministar sixte pound and tha are to pay John Robeson twente and five shilings and thay ar

to haue the Rest for thar paynes or for gathering vp the ministeres due and John Robesons due.

this Rate her spesified is sixte ffeue pound nine shilings and ten penc.

at a lawfull Town Meting the fourth of March 1678 Left. ffrancis Pabody is chosen clark to kep the town Book this yere voted:

samuel howlat is Chosen Constabel for this year insuing voted.

Ensigne goold mr thomas baker [I]sack Co[m]jings John houey and frances pabody ar Chosen selactmen for to order the prudacal afares of the town for this year insuing voted.

John french and John Robeson ar Chosen soruaares for hiwas this year insuing. voted.

John Wiles and danil borman are Chosen to vew fences this yeare insuing. voted.

John Robeson is agreed with for to sweep the meeting hous and to fasen the dores and is to haue twente ffeue shilens for his payenes voted

the towne hath granted to tobiiah perkens to be a Comanar for feed and faling timbe[r] as his nibors ar.

tobiiah perkens is Chosen to sarue on the Jure of trials the naxt Counte Cort hild at Ipswich voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting march 5, 1677.78 the towne granted to mr hobart the pond that lieth on the southside or south est end or side of the meeting hous and three ackeres of land ajoyening to it voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting 5 march. 1677.78. the towne for the preseruing of thare timber on the south sid the Reuer haue agreed that no man hance forward shall fal ani trees or timber with out leue from

such men or man that t[h]e towne shall impoure to giue leue if ani shall fall ani treee with out leue hee shall pay for eueri tree ten shilins to the towne.

this order is for the timber on the south side the Reuer onli voted.

Isack Este senr is Chosen and im-  
powered to grant liberti to such of  
our towne as need ani timber and to  
take the penalti of ani that shall fall  
ani timber without leue voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting march  
5, 1677.78. the towne granted to  
Isack Este senr and Jacob towne and  
John Robeson a small strip of vpland  
and swamp ling by the Reuer on the  
south side the Reuer and the aboue  
sade men are to giue to the towne  
whot the select men and thay shall  
agree vpon for the prise of it.

voted.

march 5, 1677-78.

the towne granted to mr william  
perkins senr liberti to remoue his  
fence on the south west end of his  
feeld to the vpland side sowwest  
ward hee paying for it to the towne  
as the select men and hee shall agree  
prouided it be no predegidis to the  
parsonidg land voted.

the towne granted to william per-  
kins Juner a strip of land aioyning  
to his one land bounded with a letel  
Ron of water in part on the west side  
of it and the sade william perkins is  
to pay to the towne Eight pound for  
it except the select men Judg it  
worth more its laft to them and him  
self to agree for the prise of it  
voted.

Received march 17th 1678: from  
Isack Este by a noat from mr siman

broadstreet ecquire the som of two  
pounds and six shilings in full of  
Topcfeilds rate for the yeare, 1664.  
I say Receued as Executor to my  
honored father Racherd Rusil Esquir  
late tresurar desesed

James Rusill.

at a lawfull towne meeting march  
5, of 1677 the towne granted to John  
how fие Rod of ground to be lade  
out at the norwest Corner of his  
howslot by his barne. voted.

the 19 of aperel 1678 this aboue  
mencioned fие Rod of ground grant-  
ed to John how is lade out by the  
select men the extent of it is about  
fore Rod nor ward from a great oke  
that is now standing nere the way  
against John howes barne.

this is a recet of whot william per-  
kens hath payed to the towne in part  
of the three pound he oeth to the  
towne for his first parcil of land he  
boote of the towne.

Received of william perkens, iuner,  
sixteene shilings for the uce of the  
towne of topcfeeld by the order of  
insigne John goold select man in the  
yeare 1677. 2 aperell 1678.

Joseph bisbe.

this sixteene shilings aboue men-  
tioned and payed to Joseph bigsbe  
to him for worke he did about mr  
hoberts windoe or for shingel for it.

at a lawfull meeting the thirteth  
day of aperell 1678, sargent John  
Redington was Chosen to sarue on  
the graniurie this year in suing  
voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the select  
men 23 Juli 1678 wee doe order that  
thare shall be noe Rames ore Rame  
to Rune vpon ani ground that is with

out fence after the first of august next Insuing tell a month after mickellmas vpon the forfeiture of one half of the Rames or Rame soe taken vp and it is lawfull for ani man to take ani Rames ore Rame that is seene to ron vpon ani vnfenced ground within the time aboue sayed.

at a lawfull towne meeting 27 of august John Redington is Chosen Comisioner to Joyne with the selact men to mak the Contre Rate and to Care it in to salam as the law diracts voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting 27 august John Comines is Chosen to sarue on the Juri of trials the naxt Counte Corte held at Ipswich voted.

boston october 10. 1678.

Received of Constabel John how of topcfeeld in part of the moni Rates forteene pound

no. 305. John hull tresurar.

I allso acknoledg that the first ten Rates mad in the yeare, 1666, are fully paid

John houll tresarer.

at a lawfull meeting of the selact men in nouembear 1678. theare was Comited to samuell howlat Constabel two Rates the one is a Counte Rate the third parte of a singel Contre Rate which amountes to three pound fие shiling which the Constabel is to gather vp and pay in to marshall scarce of salame the other Rate is al to be payed in moni it is the Coledg Rate which is in the whol som fore pound and seuen shilings fore pound of it is to be payde at Cambredg and Eight shilings to Ensigne goold.

also decan perkens william nicalles Isack Este and f[r]ances pabody are

Chosen and apoyned to be tithing men to Inspect ani parson ore parsons that shall profane the saboth and to proseed against ani that shall be falte as the law diracts.

desamber 1678. ther is two Rates Comitted to samuell howlat Constabel to gather vp and pay in to the Contre treserar or his asines the on Rate is a singel Contre Rate to be payde all in moni and the other is adobel Contre Rate it mabe payed in Corne or moni on Rate amountes to nine pownd forteene and a leuen penc the other amountes to nineteen pound thirteeen shilings and a leuen penc.

1678. Januarie the leuenth ther is the ministeres Rate Comited to samuel howlat Constabel to gather vp and pay in to the minister his due is sixte pownd but the Rate the full som is sixte one pownd forteene shilings and on pence.

at a lawfull towne meeting in Januari 1678 the tow[n]e hath agreed that the selact men shall haue pouar to set vp a galere and those that sit in it shall pay for the seting vp the galere and the townes men shall haue the first profer of the seates in bying of them.

this was voted by mee samuel howlat Constabel.

where as the towne granted william perkens Junar a small strip of land liing and ioyning to his one land liing on the sowest and a small Rone of water on the west and soe from John howes vp the Ron of water tel the Ron of water partes in to two where thare is a small tree marked and soe from that tree to the Cornar

of his fenc as it now standes where ther is a tree marked alsoe this strip of land here mencioned was laft to the select men and william perkens to agree about the prise of it and thay did agree for fifteene pound to be payed in three yeare fiue[e] pound a yeare in Corn and Catil to the towne In neete Catil and marchantabel Corne at prise Corant the on half Corn the other Catil.

Januari 31. 1678. the select man mat.

where as william perkens was indated to the towne three pownd for a small parsil of land that he bought of the towne befor this fifteen pownd perchas the said william perkens hath payed that three pownd as he was ordered by the select men for the townes vse and alsoe he hath payed twente and two shilings and six penc more [t]owards of his first fiue pownd.

At A Lawfull Town-Meeting of the Inhabitants of Topsfd. on the fourth of March 1678-79. Lieut Pa-body was chosen Towne-Clarke for this year, 1679.

at a lawfull towne meeting the forth of march, 1678-79, william perkens iuner is Chosen Constabel for this yeare Insuing voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting march the forth 1678-79 Ensigne goold, mr thomas baker, sargent Redenton, Jacob towne and frances pabody ar Chosen select men for this yeare insuing.

the towne doth prohebet t[h]e select men from alinating ani of the townes land nor make any new Rates to pay owld detes formarli put into

Rates with out the townes order. voted.

Isack Comins Is Chosen to sarue one the Juri of trials at the naxt Copt held at Ipswich. voted.

Isack Este is Chosen again to giue liberti to such as haue need of ani timber for bul[d]ing and fencing and the liberti he giues shall hold good but one yeare voted.

John french and Joseph towne senr ar Chosen for to be seruaerers and for to look to the fences this yeare that both hiwas and fences be repared as need Require voted.

John andros hath liberti giuen him to set his fenc ouer a letel nack of land to straten his fane and if the towne see it Conuiant to Chang it with him after wardes voted,

Jacob towne and goodman wiles and Isack Este ar Chosen bi the towne to Ron the line betwene the Cow Comon and lots voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting the forth of march 1678-79 Ensigne goold and frances pabody ar Chosen to Record the lotes that are layd out on the south side the Reuer the lant and bredth as tha war layd out voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men march 14th 1678.79. thay haue ordered and here by declare that wher as thare was a way layd down bettwene mr perkenes orchard and william averis land which thay Con- ceue to be Coman land no man shall fence it in for thare propor vse but it shall Remain Coman still tell the towne do order it other other wase voted.

Ensigne goold desentes from this order.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men march 14eth 1678-79. there was two Rates made for to procure powder and buletes as the law diractes the on Rate Comited to samuell howlat Constabel to gather vp and bring in to the select men the wholl som of that Rate Comited to samuel howlat is fourtene pound six shilings and he is to gather vp but the on third of it for the other parte is al redi payde in porchesing that stock of powder and buletes that is in hand.

the other Rate is Comited to John Comines Clarke to gather vp of the villidgers that haue lad them salues to topcfeeld Compeni for to traine with them thare Rate the som of it is foure pownd ninteen shilins both these Rates ar to be payed in moni or indian Corne at two shilins a bushil al to be brought in to the select [men] of topcfeeld.

29 of aperel 1679. mr thomas baker was Chosen moderater for that meetiug.

at a lawfull towne meeting 29. 2 mo 1679 the town agreed that the selactmen shall procure and by a cow for the vce of luck wackle [Luke Wakeling] and the towne will pay for her voted.

the towne of topcfeeld at a towne meeting the 29eth of aperel 1679 hauing heard an order Rad that was made by the Counte Court at Ipswich Conserning oure being Requiered to pay a som of 60 pound to mr Jarimiah hobart which as the said order seemes to expres was promised for his Incorigment to Com to topsfeeld wee being in the darke about it and not knoing of ani

towne act that euer past nor ani towne Record that houldes forth ani such thing we doe Conceue it need full to suspend vntill thare be a forder opertuniti to be batter satsefied by making inquire at the naxt Connte Court vpon whot groundes mr ier hobards petision was made and also how the towne Comes to be 60 pounds in his deat. voted.

boston. aperel 10th 1679.

Recd on act of samuel howlat and pament in full for the three last Rates due from the the towne of topcfeeld to the Country.

JohnHull treserar.

No. 391 this is samuel howlates Recet from the tresarer.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men of topsfeeld the 14th June [1679] thay haue agreed thay that doe not Com to worke at mr hobartes to make a b[age] fence shall pay two shilings and six penc a day from sixteene yeares and vpward that the law doth not free.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the fourth of iuli 1679 th[ay] hauing Receued a warant from the Contre tresarer whear in thay ware Requirered to gather of theare saueral inhabetants Ratabel foure singel Contre rates that amountes to thirte Eight pound nineteen shilings & for that end thay haue made a Rate and Comited it to the Constabe[1] william perkeings iuner to gather vp and pay in to the Contre tresarer in boston the whol som of the Rate that is deliuered to the Constabel is thirte nine pound twelue shilings 4 d. al don in the forth of iuli.

at a lafull meeting of the selact men the 27 of august 1679 thare war an order giuen to Ensigne goold and mr thomas baker for to demand and Receue of samuel howlat that moni Comited in a Rate to samuel howlat to gather vp for to by amonision as the l[aw] diracts the whol Rat is about feifteene pound the third part is onli to be gathered.

at a lawfull meeting of the selact men ienuari the on and twenth [in] the yeare 1679. Received of william perkeines iuner six pownd three shilin[gs] in part of pay of that deapt he oeth the towne for land he bought of the to[wne] twente two shilings 6d of this six pound three shilings is entered in ano[ther] place in the booke.

at a lawfull meeting of the salact men the 21eth of Januari 1679 th[are] was a rate made for the minister which amounts to sixte pound an[d] sixteen shilins and ten penc which is delinered to william perkines iun[er] being Constabel for him to gather vp and pay in to the minestar or cau[se] to be paed in to him or his asignes and to take a sofisiant discharge for the towne from the ministar of sixte pound which is due from the towne and bring that discharge to the selact men.

daniel borman and John how and Epheram dorman and John nical[s] are Chosen tithing for this yeare insuing the ninth of februari thay beegan theare yeare 1679.

at a lawfull meeting of the free men the 13 aperel 1680 samuel howlet was Chosen graniuri man for the yeare in suing.

at a lawfull meeting of the selact men Janari 7 1680 thar ware mad three Rates mad two for the Contri Containing fore singel Contri Rates and one Rat for the Counte Containing half a singel Contre Rate it amountes to about fwe pound six shilings, also the Contri Rates on is to be played in moni and that Rate is twente two pound three shilings twente pound forteen shilings is to be payed to the Contr[i] treasurer and fwe shiling a deet to the selact men which tha laid out for the biing and gating mesures for the townes use as law require, the other Rat amountes to twente pound forteen shilings for the Contri and the Ra[e] amountes to one and twente pound three shilings and six penc. thes Rates are Comited to william smith Constabel to gather vp in ianari 1680.

2 of march : 1679 or 80. Leftenant Pebody was chosen Clarke for the year in suing voted.

John how was Chosen to Rcord town actes this day 2 march 1679.

mr thomas baker sargen Radington Corpel Jacob towne John houey and frances pabody are Chosen selact men for this yeare in suing and tha are impouered to order the prudanciel afares of the towne this yeare voted by papers.

Corporall william smith is Chosen Constabel for the yeare insuing voted.

John willes is Chosen Juriman of trials for this naxt Court to be at Ipswich voted.

John french and John how are Chosen suruaeres for this yeare insuing voted.

at a towne meeting 2 of march

1670. 80 the towne haue mad Choice  
of John how to giu a deede to mr  
william perkeins iuni[er] of that  
strip of land which the towne sold to  
him and is laad out to him by the  
selact men                                   voted.

William auerel Enteres his Contrari  
desent.

mr baker Coporal towne and John  
willes are Chosen a Comitte to Run  
the boundes that are betwene the five  
hondered ackores that are laad out  
for the towne Comon and the lotes  
that but against it on the south that  
Coman here ment is on the south  
side the Reuer also tha are to run  
the boundes that ar betwene william  
auerel and danel borman and frances  
pabody soe far as thay Joyne to-  
gather                                         voted.

the 22 of march 1679.80.

the fore sade three men mr thomas  
baker Corporall towne and John  
Wiles haue acording to towne order  
haue Reueued the boundes betwene  
daiil borman and frances pabody by  
laing a heape of Rockes in that place  
where forinarli theare was a tree but  
now Rotten and gon in leftenant  
Pebody orchard                           witnes our handes

Thomas Baker  
John wills  
Jacob towne

at a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 7  
may 1680.

The Towne manifesan by voat that  
thay ware not Willing mr Hubbord  
should Continiae in ye Worke of ye  
ministrey here at Topsfeeld without  
mr Hubbord and ye Towne Can  
agree in a more Christian way than  
thay bee in at prsent.                   voted.

the towne by vote does declare  
that if mr hobard desire a towne

meeting hee may discors with the  
towne if hee apoynt a daye the naxt  
weeke thay will meet with him if hee  
giu notes on saboth day naxt. 7 may  
1680.

The Towne has manifesan by vote  
that thay are willing to Jone with ye  
Viligers and our Neaighobers of the  
forimes of Ipswich that doe ordernely  
Come to heare ye word heare to  
petiction the Generall Court that  
wee might be Laid to gather for ye  
Cariang one ye ministrey may 7  
1680.

at a lawfull towne meeting may 7  
1680, william perkeines Juner and  
samuell howlat are Chosen Colacters  
to gather vp all Rates Comited to  
them for the minester or ani other  
Rates Comited to them and to sue  
In Case ani shal Refues to pay at  
bauerle or ani whear Elc where  
Rates are due to vs

at a lawfull towne meeting 7eth of  
may 1680. Ensigne John goold and  
mr thomas baker are Chosen to  
Joyne with the vilegeres and our  
nibores in Ipswich that Comonli  
Com to here the word of god here to  
Joyne with them to petision the  
generel Court to grant that thay may  
Joyne with topsfeeld to the  
mantaining of the ministre to gather  
voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting the  
10eth of may 1680. John willes  
and John how a[re] Chosen to looke  
that men Ring thare swine acording  
to towne order                           vote[d].

at a lawfull meeting of the selact  
men the tenth of July 1680 thay  
Receuing the new lawes mad at the  
genarall Court heeld ma— last 1680  
abought new standereds or meseres

for Corne bere and wine we the  
select men doe promis the Constabel  
to defray the Charges that he shall  
all nasasarili la out on this occasion  
voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the select  
men the 27 Juli 1680, frances pa-  
body was Chosen to sele wates and  
mesures by the town standered as is  
now newli Com from Ingland and is  
at present to be our standered in  
masetuset Colene voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting the  
tenth of august 1680. Ensigne  
goold is Chosen Comisionar to Joyne  
with the selectmen to take notes of  
the townes heades and estates Rat-  
abel and to Cari in the townes Estat  
to salam at tim and plac acording to  
law voted.

this is to sarti fie that samuel how-  
lat Constabel hath satis fied the  
Counte Rate which was made in the  
yeare 1678 and Comited to him to  
gather vp this twenti ninth of Sep-  
tember 1680.

Receuued of samuell howlatt Con-  
stabel of topcfeld in full of the  
Counie Rate due in 78, the some of  
three pounds five shilings I say Re-  
ciued pr me Robart Payne  
tresear.

the two and tweenteth of october  
1680 william smith Constabel  
g \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* that the se-  
lect men In the behalf of the towne  
did fore warn him of liuing as a[n]  
inhabetant in topcfeld fore dayes  
after he brought his famili within the  
boundes of topcfeld

at a lawfull meeting of the select  
men 7 Januari 1680, the select men  
Rackened with William Perkens

abought his dat he oeth the towne  
and he hath payed of his deat of  
fortene pound nine pound six shil-  
lings and six penc as he did make  
apere by Recetes where he had paed  
the townes dattes as he was ordered  
good man Robeson is paed in this  
acount for two yeare Ending in  
march next insuing for sweeping the  
hous.

topcfeild the 14 of Januari 1680.  
Receuued of the towne of topcfeild  
for mi labor in the minestri thare for  
the yeares 1675 and 1676 the some  
of sixte pound for each vpon a true  
acount with John how Constabel for  
the years afore said i sa rcieuued by  
mee

Jarimia hobart.

witnes et

thomas baker and John how.

at a lawfull towne the 17 of  
december 1680. the towne did  
agree and Cuse a Comite to agree  
with mr danforth for his Contenuing  
here at topcfeild in the worke of the  
minestri as the towne shall giue  
diraction to the Comit[e] tha shall  
Chuse

voted

at a lawfull towne meeting in  
Januari 1680 frances pabody and  
Ensigne goold are Chosen by the  
towne of topcfeild as a Comite  
acording to dyraction from the hon-  
ored maior genaral danison for the  
produsing the best aidanc tha Can  
to proue our titel good to the sile  
wee liu on

voted

John goold senr John Redington  
decon thomas perkeins frances pa-  
body mr thomas baker John pabody  
Jacob towne senr Isack Este John  
houey neamia abot John willes these  
fore mencioned men ar Chosen a

Comite in the behalfe of the towne  
to agree with mr danforth for his  
Continuing here with vs at topcfeeld  
in the worke of the minestri and  
wee doe forther giu pouer to the  
Comite to chuse som amongst them-  
selves or ani other as thay shall see  
meet to goe and spak with the  
deputi gouarnor or ani other that  
may beconserned abought mister  
danforth sattelment                         voted

the towne hath giuen pouar to the  
Comite that thay haue Chosen to  
agree with mr danforth and to pro-  
far him three score pound a yeare  
one third in siluer and the other  
two thirdes to be payed in Corant  
pay of the Contre at the Contre  
prise namli in wheat porke molt  
butter Rie indean Corne an equal  
proposition of all with out ani partic-  
ular parson or parsones doe agree  
with mr danforth to take it in ani  
on of the afore mencioned payes  
and if the Comite Canot agree with  
mr danforth for whot is afore speci-  
fied thay haue powar to promise  
thirte pownd in siluer and the other  
thirte pownd as is before speifid  
                                                       voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select  
men the 11 februari 1680 danell  
Clark Isack Comines seenr John  
french and John Cortes ar Chosen  
for tithing men for the yeere insuing  
                                                       voted

At a Lawfull Towne meting the  
furst of march 1680 or 81 Leftenant  
Pehody was Chosen Clarke for this  
yere.

tobijah perkeins Is Chosen Con-  
stabel for the yeare insuing                 voted

Ensigne goold Isack Este Ephroam  
darman frances pabody and samuel

howlat are Chosen select men for  
the yeare insuing                                 voted

Corperal towne is Chosen to sarue  
on the iuri of trials the naxt Counte  
Couart heeld at Ipswich                         voted

at a lawfull towne meeting the  
first of march 1680 or 1 the towne  
granted to John Cortis to be a free  
Comonar as is granted to other of  
his nibores ar as tobijah perkeins  
and mickal donel ar                         voted

mr thomas backer Ensigne goold  
and John houey ar Chosen a Comite  
to goe and veue land that Isack Este  
and thomas perle haue prounded to  
the town \* \* and to mak Retorne  
to the towne the nax towne meeting  
how thay find it far the towne to be  
willin to grati fie those men                 voted

mr thomas backer Corporal Jacob  
towne william smith sener ar Chosen  
to goe to Ipswich Cort naxt Ensigne  
goold to goe also to see if tha Can  
disposes hunkins and Remoue heem  
from topcfeeld and tha ar to prose-  
cut it to efact                                 voted.

this towne meeting is aiorned tell  
the 22eth of this instant march  
                                                       voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select  
men the tenth of march 1680 or 81  
the select men now in being doe  
Consent and agree with Insigne  
goold is Chosen and John houey that  
thay shall sat vp a galari in the meet-  
ing hous the wholl length of the hous  
and to make it three seates wide the  
lanth of the hous and tha ar to be  
paed by those that shall sit in tham  
according to that the towne did agree  
at a towne meeting in the yeare 1678  
as ye may find 15 page                         voted

Received of frances Pebody the just sum of foure pounds in mony and is in full to pay the subscription to the contribution for the new buleding for the Colledge j say Received by me william Manning: wittnes Henry Bartholmew. which for pownd j frances pabody Received of the Constabel Samuel Houlat witnes my hand  
frances pabody.

at a Meeting of the freemen the 22 of the 2 mo 1679, Sargen John Redington was Chosen gran Juriman for the yeare Insing voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the 14 iune 1679. thay hau worke at mr hubba[rts] to make a hage fence shall pay two shiling six penc a day from sixteene yeare ould and vpward as the law doth not free.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men John how was Chosen to sarue on the Jurie of triales the naxt Cort that is to be heeld at Ipswich, 13, da of saptember 1680. voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select men 13 of the 7 month 1680; a writing to John hunkin to fore warne him of Coming to be an inhabetant in oure towne.

at a lawfull towne meeting the forth of may 1681, Isack este senar was Chose to be graniure man fo the [y]eare insuing voted.

We whos names are under writen hauing power from the Towne to settell bounds with those that Joyne on our Common: we haue a cordingly agreed with mr Timmothy Pirkins; that all the upland and medow: that is within his fence at this time Jenuary ye 5th 1686: in the field by the meeting hous nere bare hill: shall be

and Remaine to him and his heirs foreuer, and the fence as it now stands shall be his bounds and that it shall be entered in our Towne book; for the which he the said Timmothy Pirkins doth in iage to pay two pounds eleuen shilings

Thomas Baker  
John How  
Jacob Towne

one and twenty of that a boue mentioned is mony I am sertenly informed by Mr. Thomas baker and Mr. Timmothy Pirkins.

Ephraim dorman.

Decn Isaac Comings Constable of Topsfield for the yeare one thousen six hundred and eighty six, I say reseued of him ye full of that rate which was made for my use for ye year aforesaid and commited to him to collect I say reseued of him for that yeare in full for what was commited to him to gather  
by me Joseph Capen.

dat Jan 26 : 1691

this is a true copy entered pr me Ephraim Dorman  
Recorder for Topsfield.

reseued ye full of ye rate for ye yeare 85 by the hand of Elisha Pirkins constable, witnes my hand  
Joseph Capen.

May 21 :88 this is a true copy entered pr me

Ephraim Dorman Clarke.

Charlstowne 18th march 1690 : or 91.  
then Reseued of mr John Towne Constable of Topsfield three twenty shilling bills of creadit and thirty six shillings in mony and is in full of ye two mony rates and a halfe of said Towne ye wholl was the remainder four pounds sixtene shillings I say

tobiah perkenes the 26 day of aperel  
for to gather vp and Cari in to the  
Contri tresarer as his warrant diractes  
him.

at a lawfull town meeting the  
forth of may 1681. Ensigne goold  
and sargent John Redington ar Chosen  
to goe to mr apes at salam to see  
if he will except of a Call to the  
menestre here

boston may 10 1781.

Receted of mr John how Constabel  
of topsfeild by saueral paymentes in  
Rates pay and money in full of the  
town Rates and the two six Rates  
and the three Rates for the yeares  
1676 and 1677 two hondeed and  
fuenti fore pounds fore shilings and  
six pence I sa Receued by order of  
mi master mr John hull

per me John newman

Witnes William smith.

boston may 21eth 1680

Receued of mr william perkens Con-  
stabel of topcfeild by saueral  
pamentes in full of the last four  
Rates in money and as moni nin-  
teene pound nin shilings and ten  
penc and in full of the half moni  
Rate five pounds one shiling and six  
penc and in Rate pay in full of the  
last singel Contre Rate ten pounds  
three shilings I say Receued by  
order of my master John hull esquir

by me John newman

Receued may 9eth 1631 from wil-  
liam smith one aCount of of tobiah  
perkens two pounds alauen shilings  
and 9 penc being in full of topcfeild  
moni Rate for our agantes

James Rusil tresarer

at a lawfull towne meeting the 17  
of June 1681 Ensigne goold and  
Isack este ar Chosen to goe to  
mester danel apes to se if he will

Com to help vs in Respect of the  
menistri eueri other saboth or oftener  
if he Can in order to a forther ax-  
rianc of ech other  
voted

At a Lawfull Towne Meeting ye  
17 June 1681 : The Towne has or-  
dered that there shall bee noe boge  
mine doge in ye Towne but by some  
townes man : and hee that dos dige  
et shall Carey et with his one teme  
or hieree a townesman to Carey et  
alwayes prouided hee that diges it a  
greees with the selectmen of the  
Towne to pay fouer pence a ton for  
the Towne vese ether in siluer or  
Iron and this order stands in force  
till next march : Towne Meeting  
after the date hereof on till forder  
order bee taken about it  
voted

at alawfull meeting of the select  
men iune 27eth 1681 the select men  
granted Ensigne goold liberte to dig  
twente tun of bogmine and is [to]  
paye six shilings and Eight penc in  
silver or iarn acording to towne order  
voted

At a Lawfull meeting of the seclact  
men June 27 : 1481 the selectmen  
haue granted Liut pebody Libertey  
to dige twent[e] ton of bogemine hee  
paying six shiling & eaight penc in  
siluer or Iron aCording to towne  
order  
Voted

at a lawfull towne meeting 15eth  
of iuli 1681 Ensigne goold and John  
houey are Chosen to be mesingares  
by the towne to goe to mr John dan-  
forth to Renew thare inuitacion of  
him to the work of the minstri but  
if he Refuse then tha ar to goe by  
the best in formacion tha can gat to  
procure another to Com vpon trial a  
while  
voted

at a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 29  
of July 1681 Thomas perkins Jur and  
Joseph Bixby Junr are Chosen to  
goe to Cambrig to pilot mr Capen to  
Topsfeild to Liut pebodyes house

Liut pebody Deckon perkins Sargt  
Redington James How senr Mr Tho:  
Baker John Gould Sargt pebody  
Samuel Busell senr John Wilds John  
How Iacke estey Clarke are Chosen  
a Commity to discourse with Mr  
Capen to stay and preach here  
with vs at Topsfeild a while

at a lawfull towne meeting 23  
6mo 1681 mi thomas baker was  
Chosen Comisionar to ofisiatare as  
the law directes about the singel  
Contre Rate with the select men

at a lawfull towne meeting the  
fift of sapember 1681 John how was  
Chosen to sarue on the Juri of triales  
naxt Counte Couart heeld at Ipswich  
voted

at a lawfull towne meeting the fift  
of sapember 1681 sargent Redington  
Jacob towne senr and John how or  
ani two of them ar Chosen to accom-  
pani mr Capen to dorchester when  
hee goes to viset his frendes and to  
bring him agane if tha Can with his  
frendes Consent to Contene with vs  
in the ministri  
voted

at a lawfull towne meeting fift of  
sapember 1681. John houey isack  
este John how and Eprem dorman ar  
Chosen a comite to goe and vew how  
Convenantli the towne may ex-  
change two or three acores of land  
about bare hil plane with mr thomas  
backer he laing doune so moch more  
aioyneing to our Coman land prouid  
he and his ares shall buld and keep  
hous and barn and a tenent on that  
land  
voted

at a lawfull towne meeting the 26  
of saptember 1681 the town hath  
agreed to giue mr Joseph Capen  
sixte fiue pownd by the yeare twente  
pownd of it in siluer forti five pownd  
in other pay as namli in Corne porke  
and beefe and the vse of the pars-  
eneg house and land the towne doth  
leue it to mister Capen to Chuse  
whether he will Chuse this or to  
Chuse sauente fiuue pound in Corant  
pay as Corne porke and beefe and  
the vse of the parseneg house and  
land  
voted

mister Capen hath made Coyce of  
sixte fiu pound twente of it in moni

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 4  
of Nouember 1681 et was agreed  
that there should bee a Rate made to  
pay ye former Constabell Namely  
John How the fouer pounds nine  
shilings & two penc that was for-  
merly Laid apon ye Gouenr: Symon  
Brodstreet esqr and ye selectmen are  
ordered to make et not with standing  
any former Town order  
Voted

at a Lawfull meeting of ye seclct-  
men ye 20 of desember 1681: et was  
a greed by them to forwarne euenes  
mories from staying in Topsfeild but  
to goe forth with to ye plase wher he  
has bin a inhabitance for a boue six  
month: namely to nebeuwey and  
thay haue forwarned euenes mories  
out of ye Towne forth with and fir-  
ther in case the said Euin Morrs  
doth not departe the Towne forth-  
with: Ensigne John Gould and  
John How are Chosen to Complain  
to aThority that he may be settelede  
acording to law

this 13 day of Jenewarey 1681 the  
seclctmen mete and agreed With  
Samuel Symons to bild a pulpit for

vs here at Topsfeild.

the bargin is as foileth the said Samuel Symons is to bild a pulpit ten foot Long and if ye rome will giveway it is to belonger & for breth as ye rome will giveway it is to bee a wainshote pulpit and ye sd Symons is to doe all belongin to ye pulpit except the flore for ye bottom and finding bordes and nailes ye Seclectmen are to fiud but to Lay ye flore and make ye stares ye said Symons is to doe it: and for to doe all ye worke about ye pulpit as is before mencned ye seclct men in behalfe of ye Towne are to pay to Samuel Symons ten pounds and this worke is to be don and finished by ye 15 day of apriell next in sueing ye date a boue dated and ye pay that ye Seclectmen haue agreed ye Towne are to pay Goodman Symons in is one halfe in Corne at ye Contry price and ye other halfe in neate Cattell and if any body payes in money is to haue one thurd part of his proportion abated and ye seclct men doe bind themselues Jontly to see ye Towne dos pay Goodman Symons as is aboue agreeed : the time of payment is when ye worke is done as Witnes our hands ye day and yeare a boue dated.

Samuell Symonds  
frances pabody  
John Gould senr  
Isack Estey sen  
Samuell Howlett  
Ephraim Dorman

At a Lawfull meeting of ye seclctmen ye 31 of Jenewary 1681. William Nicklos & mr William perkins Junr and John Houey and Corpr William smith ar Chosen Tieeingmen for Topsfield for ye yeare insueing.

at a lawfull meeting of ye select men the 31 of Januari 1681 wee the select men Rackened with william perkenes Junar and we find by his notes that ware past to him by the select men that hee hath payed the fifteene pound that hee the a boue saiyd perkenes was in dattet to the towne for land he bought of the towne where by we doe a quite and discharg the sayed william perkenes of the fifteene pownd that hee was in dattet to the towne as witnes oure handes the day and yeare aboue dated.

frances pabody  
John Gould  
Ephraim dorman  
Isack Esty  
Samuell Howlett

At a lawfull Towne meting the 7th of march 1681 or 82 Enssine John Gould is Chosen Clark for the yere ensewing. voted.

Lliut pebody Sargt Redington Deckon perkins Corpl Townes & John Gould are Chosen seclctmen to order the prudenctiall afares of ye Towne for ye yeare in sueing. Voted

Daniell Redington is Chosen Constabell for Topsfeild for ye yeare insueing. Voated

John ffanch is Chosen Juereyman for trialls for this naxt Court hild at Ipswich.

it was Voated that John How & John Gould should prosikaute at Ipswich Court as ye seclactmen did before order tham to see and if thay Can Keepe enene mories from being a Townesman here at Topsfeild.

Voated  
John ffanch & John Townes are

Chosen to be siruiouers for ffences  
and hie wayes & bridges for this  
yeare insuing.

Voated

The Towne has a greed by Voate  
that thay doe Consent to ye bargin  
the selectmen haue made with Sam-  
uel Symons about bilding ye pulpit.

Voated

William Auerey enters his desent  
to ye Voat aboue wrighteen about ye  
pulpit.

The Towne has Agreed that euerey  
man that is Legaly warned to Come  
to ye hie wayes with a teme and dos  
niglict to Come shall bee fined six  
shiling a day for euerey nicelect and  
euerey man that is warned to Come  
to worke at the hie wayes and nicelect  
shall pay by way of a fine two shil-  
lings and six pence pr. day so  
nicelecting it shall bee Countied  
Legall waring and if there is two  
dayes betwene ye day of waring and  
ye day of working and the Seruay-  
eres are to goe & destraine for ye  
fines and giue it to ye men that dos  
ye worke or hiere other men to  
worke in there rome.

Voated

The Towne dos agree that any  
body that dos ring hoges shall haue  
three pence pr hoge. hee finding  
rings that dos ring there hoges and  
is ordred by ye Towne to doe ye  
worke.

Voated

Peter Shamway & James Watters  
is Chosen to ring hoges for this  
yeare.

Voated

The Towne has Voated that ye  
old Towne Booke shall bee Tran-  
scribed in to ye new Towne Booke  
all that is needful to bee don & that  
is not all redy don

Voated

Lliut pebody & John Gould are  
Chosen to Tranccribe all ye old  
Towne booke in to ye newe Towne  
booke as is Needfull to bee don

Voated

The Towne has agreed that ye  
selectmen shall repair all breaches  
about ye meeting house & parsonig  
house & barne & to make seates in  
ye meeting house & mend ye wach  
house and all other prudencnall a-  
fares of ye Towne all at ye Towne  
charge prohibiting the selectmen  
from aliniting any of ye Towne  
Common.

Voated

Topsfeild Aprill 11th 82. reckned  
with & receiued of Samuell Howlett  
Constabel fore Topsfeild: an 1678.  
the full some of 6 lb for my rate for  
ye yeare 78 I say receiued pr me  
Jeamr Hobbord.

this is a true Copey of mr Hub-  
bord Receiat as attested by mee.  
Dated ye 12 A[p]riell 1682

John Gould Clarke

at a lawfull meting of the select-  
men 20 of desember 81 upone con-  
sederation of our naigbour Samuell  
Bussell hath not a conueniant place  
in our meting hous as he is ordered  
to sit in tharefore we doe manifest  
our wilngnes that he should sit in  
the seccond seate uoted also Leften-  
tent pebody is ordered to in form  
him

uoted.

Ensigne John Gould and Isaac  
Easty senier are Chosen to goe to mr  
Jerymiah Hobbord to demand the  
key of the parssenidg house. uoted

The selectmen haue forbiden and  
doe by this prsent declare that there  
shall be noe raile timber feled tell ye  
generall Towne meeting with out or-

der from ye seclctmen and aney man  
has Libertey to take any raile timber  
that is apon ye Common that has bin  
feled one yeare or that dos Lie in a  
decaying Condition                      Voated

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Clect-  
men ye 27 of desember 1681 Corpl  
Jocab Townes and John How are  
Chosn and a pionted to rune ye Line  
for Deckan Tho: perkins which is  
betwene ye Common Land and Dec-  
kon perkins Land

at a lawfull meeting of the select  
men 3 day of saptember 1681 John  
Robeson excaptes of william per-  
kenes iuner pamaster for his sweping  
the meeting hous tel march naxt  
which som is twente fli penc by the  
selactmens ordering william perkens  
to pay him

a Rate for the minester for the  
yeare 1681 begining in nouember.  
mr william perkenes                01 08 5  
mr John brodstreet                01 12 4  
frances pabody                    03 04 0  
Ensigne John goold                02 12 8  
sar John Radington                02 07 11  
decon thomas perkenes            02 07 0  
mr thomas baker                    02 07 03  
wedoe mary towne                01 10 00  
sar Isack Commes                 01 11 07  
Eproain dorman                    01 02 06  
Cor Jacob towne                  01 08 09  
thomas dorman                    01 09 02  
John houey                        01 15 05  
John willes                        01 02 01  
Isack Este senr                  01 03 00  
danell borman                    01 08 09  
danell Clarke                    01 00 0  
william auerell                  01 00 06  
John pabody                        01 10 00  
Joseph towne                      01 02 03  
John Cortes                        00 15 08  
nikall donel                      00 13 05

mathew stanle	00	14	09
John how	00	13	00
John french	01	01	11
John prechet	00	15	02
william nickalls	0	15	06
samuell howlat	0	15	02
John Robeson	00	14	06
william perkens iunr	00	12	05
John nickalls	00	15	11
william hobes	00	13	06
phelap knite	00	10	04
tobiah perkens	00	13	08
wedoe andros	00	08	00
John Ceuy (?)	00	11	00
thomas Ceuy (?)	00	07	04
petter shomay	09	07	03
Isack Este iunr	00	07	01
John towne	00	05	10
thomas towne	00	05	07
James watteres	00	09	04
Elisha perkens	00	08	09
Zecheus perkens	00	09	08
thomas Cau	00	07	00
Joseph Este	00	07	09
William Wotson	00	06	00
Abraham Radington	01	05	0
John Cimball	00	13	0
Robard stilles	00	15	0
samuel busell	01	00	0
william foster	00	15	0
Joseph pabody	00	14	0
danell black	00	08	0
Zecheus Corteus sen	00	14	0
Zecheus Corteus iunr	00	10	0
Joseph bigsbe iunr	00	05	0
John Ramsdell	00	06	0
sargen bigsbe	01	00	0
neamiah abit	00	15	0
James how senr	00	10	0
Isack foster	00	07	0
samuell pearle	00	08	0
thomas perle	00	09	0
abraham how	00	06	0
Robard smith	00	13	0
timothy perle	00	06	0

samuell simanes	01	06	0	this is a true Copy of mr Hubbort
william howlat	01	04	0	receat as atested Dated ye 12
danell wood	00	06	0	Apriell 1682. pr mee John Gould
beniman bigesbe	00	05	0	Clarke.
thomas andros	00	18	0	At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye
Cor william smith	01	11	4	12 Apriell 1682 Mr Tho: Baker &
Isack borten	00	16	0	Corpr Jacob Townes & John How
John hunckens	00	08	0	are Chosen to goe & rune ye perambulation Line with Salam men the
samuell stanlle	00	05	9	seuenteene day of this Instant Apr- iell.
lefstenet thomas putnum	00	04	2	Voated
mr Joseph porter	00	04	0	The Towne has manifesd by Voate
beniman porter	00	11	0	that they will giue Zacheus Curties
mr John hale	00	01	6	senr Clabords & shingels for to
Jonathan walcot	00	01	6	Clabor[d] & shingell his house pro-
william dodge senr	00	01	6	uided et dos not amount to aboue
Cor william Rament	00	01	6	fluteene hundred of Clabbords &
John Rament	00	01	6	shingell.
thomas Rament	00	01	6	Voated
william dodge iuner	00	01	6	The Towne has agreed to giue full
Jonathan looke	00	16	02	power to mr Tho: Baker & Corprel
John lamson	00	02	10	Jacob Towne & John How to sue
John fisk	00	04	2	for a meseuer or for a true & exact
mathew perch	00	06	00	a Count of all ye Land any man or
danel andros	00	01	03	mene doe Clame within our bounds
samuell Cornish	00	02	0	and ye a for said men are impowered
Joseph hearick	00	00	9	to sue or other wise at any Court or
samuell Cimbball	00	01	03	Courts and to prosiCate from Court
John poland	00	00	10	to Court tell they haue ended ye
Wedoe herick	00	00	9	Case: this is to Confarme any form-
samuell molton	00	00	9	er order relating to some of Salom
James frend	00	01	6	men that haue Land in our bounds
Joshua Ray	00	04	4	and whenham men or any that dos
Edman bishup	00	02	0	go apon our Commons.
nikoles woodberi	00	02	0	Voated
John black	00	01	0	At A Lawfull meeting of ye Seclect-
Ephroom hearick	00	00	4	men of Topsfeild the 4 day of May
John Andreus	00	03	04	1682.
Joseph Andreus	00	03	00	Mr Thomas Baker & Corpr Jacob

Topsfield Aprell 11th: 1682 Reck-  
ned with mr William perkins Junr  
Constabell for an 79 he hath payd  
mee the full rate of 60 pounds due  
for ye yeare 79 I say reseived  
pr mee Seremiah Hobart

Townes & John How are Chosen and  
apionted & haue full power ginene  
granted to them to settell a Line  
betwene Whenham and Topsfeild  
Ether by a greement Vnder both  
parties hands or by a Commitey  
Chosen by both parties or elese to

bringe Whenham men by Law to settell a Line or any other way as the three aboue named men shall see beast for ye good of our Towne.

At A Lawfull meeting of ye seelectmen the 4 day of May 1682 wee doe hereby giue full power to Mr. Thomas Baker Corpr Jacob Townes & John How to demand of aney or all the men of Salam or Whenham that Clame Land or Medoe in our Townes bounds, to show there rightes and titels to those Lands Clamed by them and allso there seuerall bounds to those Land Clamed by them and if any or all of them shall refuse or doe not make et Legally apere how thay Came by those Lands thay Clame to ye sattisfaction of ye aboue said Baker Townes & how: wee doe heareby giue them full power in ye Name of ye Towne to make trespass on those Land or sue the Clamers thereof and prockeut the Law against them or any of them or to Compound and a gree with any of them as thay shall see meete and what so euer thay shall doe there in wee will owne and stand by and conferme as witnes our hands.

John Gould senr  
frances pabody  
Thomas Perkins  
John Redington

Wee Tho: Baker & Jacob Townes & John How not with standing what ye seelect have ingaged to Vs in there order bareing date ye 4 May 1682 to bare Vs out in sueing or ruunning a line with Whenham men doe intend noe other pay but what ye Towne hase ingaged in there former order or any other that ye seelectmen order dos giue Vs power to sue for as witness our hands

Thomas Baker  
Jacob towne  
John How

the 4 May 1682 there was a Rate made and Committed to Daniell Redington Constabell of Topsfeild a mounting to fife pounds in silver for agants goeing to his Maiestey.

Reced June 9th from William Smith seuerall paminents Amounting to twenty Three pounds fife shillings & nine pence in money & twenty foure pounds fouearteen shilings in Contrey pay being in ffull of Topsfeild proportion to fouer country Rate & A quarter I say reced pr Jame Rusell Tresuer.

This is a true Copey of ye Tresuer Reseate this 20 day of June 1682 as atested by

Ephraim dorman  
John Gould Senr  
recorder for Topsfeild.

Will: Smith was Constabell for ye yeare 1680 for ye Dates as he has paid to ye Tresuer as ye Tresuer Resect dos make apere abou dated.

at A Lawfull Towne meeting the 20 June 1682 the Towne granted to mr Joseph Capen twelue eachers of vpland & medoe or swampe that will make medo: if mr Capen dos settell a mongst vs and except of ye ministerall ofeicese a mongest vs and if God by his prouedances dos take a way mr Capen from vs: then the Towne dos desier to haue the refusall of bying the Land paying mr Capen for what hee has Laid out one ye Land as aney othher man or men shall doe.

Voated

The Towne dos Vnderstand by ye selectmen that Mr Capen will except

of a parcell of Land that was shone  
Mr Capen by ye seelctmen neere to  
John How and if Mr Capen dos not  
Like that percell of Land thin ye  
Towne as Chosen a Commitey to goe  
& Looke one some other plase and  
make returne to ye Towne whare it is  
which hee shall haue and if it be not  
greetly to ye Townes damig but if  
Mr Capen dos except of ye plase  
showne him by ye seelctmen then ye  
Commity are impowered to Lay it  
out whe. Mr Capen dos desier it to  
be don

Voated

Leiut pebody Sargt Redington  
Corpr Jacob Townes & John Wilds  
& John Gould Senr. are Chosen a  
Commitey to goe & Lay out twelue  
eachers of Land & swampe or medoe  
to Mr Capen when Mr Capen dos  
desier it & if Mr Capen dos Like ye  
plase that was shone him by ye seelct-  
men: and if Mr Capen dos not Like  
that plase then thay are to goe with  
Mr Capen to Looke one some other  
plase and make returne to ye Towne  
of ye plase then desiered by Mr  
Capen acording to Towne order.

Voated

20 2mo 1682

At a Towne meetting Walter  
ffairefieeld & Deacon ffiske are Ap-  
pointed to Joyne with the selectmen  
to meett with Topsfield men: on fry-  
daye Come fortnite and haue full  
power to settle the Lyne betwene  
Topsfeild & or Towne

that is a true Coppey taken out of  
the Towne booke of Wenham Attest-  
ed Thos: ffiske recorder to the  
Towne.

this is a true Coppey of Wenham men  
order as aperd Vnder there recorder  
hand: as atested John Gould record-

er for Topsfeild this 24 June 1682.

Wee whose Names are Vnder  
Wrighteen being impowered by our  
Respectife Townes fidelied Topsfeild  
and Wenham meet to gather this fifth  
day of the thurd month 1682 to settell  
a diuationall Line beetwixt our  
Townes: haue agreed that from a  
Littell tree neere Joseph Porters me-  
adow marked with T and W: and set  
about with a heape of stones and  
from thence to a plump of mapels  
marked which standeth northward  
from the fore sd tree and standeth by  
Charles Gote medow and from thence  
towards the Reuere a Cording as the  
brooke runes Vntill it Cometh to an  
Iland by the Edge of a swamp Joine-  
ing to a peece of medow Called Peg-  
dens medow and from the weast  
point of ye sd Iland by the edge of  
ye medow tell it Cometh to ye West  
side of Pegdens medow a foresaid  
said and so in Cluding ye said  
medow to Wenham to an Iland Caled  
hocellbarey Iland and from thence  
to the est end of ye sd Iland in  
Cluding all Walter ffarefeeild medow  
to Whensem by a straight Line and  
this agreemant to bee a full settle-  
ment of a diuationall Line betwene  
our Townes and in Confermation  
thereof wee haue set too our hands.

Tho: Baker

Jacob Townes

John How

Tho: ffiske

Walter ffarefeeild

Charles Gott

Tho: Patch

William ffiske.

This is a true Coppey of ye orig-  
nell Vnder there hands as thay bee  
now set downe as atested by me  
John Gould recorder for Topsfeild.

this is Compared with ye oregonall  
atested by me John How.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye seelct-

men the 12 of September 1682 the selectmen haue agreed to forewarne ye Widdoe Bridges out of Topsfeild with her Children and thay haue ordered the Constabell to goe and forwarne her from staying here in Topsfeild.

at A Lawfull meeting of The Towne of Topsfeild & the neibors of ye Vilege Ipswich farme ye 25 september 1682 being meete togather to heare Mr Capen Answer did reseufe his Answer and Voated et to be entred in ye Towne book Voted

Corpr Will Smith is Chosen to sarue on ye Juerey of Trialls this Court now to be hild at Ipswich the Last tuesday of this Instant month

Voated

at a Lawfull meeting of ye free-men of Apriell 1682 Thomas Dorman is Chosen to sarue on the Grand Juerey for this yeare

Voated

it was Voated that ye selectmen shuld goe and aduise with Mr Capen about his settelment here with Vs and what way Mr Capen would haue it don and so make returne to ye Towne

Voted

25 September 1682

it Was Voated that ye selectmen shall goe and aduise with mr Capen which way mr Capen will haue the money Laid out that is subCribed to be giuene to mr Capen.

In Answer to ye motion of ye Churche & Towne of Topsfeild and ye Neighbors of Rowly Village & Ipswich: Sept. 18: An Do 1682: Hauing taken into serious Consideration ye motion which hath been made by your selues to mee in order to ye worke of ye ministry among you, hauing also to ye Vtmost of my

Vnderstanding & abillity Eyed & obsurved both ye word & ye prouidence of God in order thereunto: and Although I am greatly sensible of my inability and Insufficiency to so great a worke, yet seeing it is God who hath by his prouidence brought mee into ye same & not seeing my way Clear to break of from that Worke, Considering also ye Continuance of yor Loue & good Affection to mee hauing also been Earnest with that God (Wich directeth his in all their Wayes setteth bounds to ye habitations of all men) for guidance Counsell & Direction in this great Affair: Waighing all these things together I do Intend if God shall Continue me in this Worke by Assitting & inabling mee there Vnto to Continue With you in the Worke of ye Gospell in order to a farther settlment in God own tim VnLese anything shall Interuene Which shall bee accounted by Indiffrant & Impartiall Judgments to hee Just ground & sufficient Reason to obstruct any proceedings of that Nature.

Joseph Capen.

This is a true Copey of mr Capen Answer to ye Church & Towne of Topsfeild & ye Neighbours of Rowly Village & Ipswich as attested  
John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

I Thomas perkins senr see it Compared and I doe aferme this aboue to bee a true Copey of mr Capen answer as witnes my hand

Thomas Perkins.

Topsfeild, July 5, 1682

Received of Ensign Jno Gould & John How Constable of Topsfeild the Complement of a Rate of sixty pound for my Labours in ye ministry there in the yeare 77 I say Received

Per mee Jere Hobart.

This is a true Copey of mr Hubbord Reseate at attested by mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild.

Witnes willam smyth

Thomas Dorman

[the above 5 lines were afterwards interlined in the record with a blacker ink]

This a true Copey of mr Hobart Reseate as attested John Gould Recorder for ye Towne of Topsfeild: 60: 00: 00

Reseuued June 9th 1682 from Daniell Redington in full of Topsfeild Rate for our agents: fие pound in money.

Jame Russell Treasuer 05: 00: 00

this is a true Copey of ye Tresuer Reseate as attested John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild this 21 of Nouember 1682.

witnes Ephrin dorman.

at a Lawfull Towne meeting the 21 nouember 1682 John How is Chosen to answer at ye Court at Salom for Topsfeild for ther being Complainid of about a defected bridges

Voated

Topsfd July 5th 82.

Received of William Smith senr Constabel the Complement of a rate of Twenty pounds, made for my Labour part of the yeare, 80 at Topsfeild. I say received Per mee

Jere Hobart.

This is a true Copey Compared with ye orignall Vnder mr Hobart hand as attested by mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild this 21 Nouember 1682. this is truly compared and ye oregenall actualy don by mr Hobad attasted by me John How.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting the

21 Nouember 1682.

The Towne has for ye full sattisfieing of Mr Capen in respect of his good Answer to ye Church and Towne of Topsfeild and Neighbors of ye Vilig & Ipswich farmes of his settlement amongst Vs in God one time in order to ye Worke of ye gospiell. The Towne dos ffly Conferme ye Land granted to Mr Capen to bee his owne and if Mr Capen dos Lay out any Charge a bout ye Land ye Towne dos Looke at themselues, bouud to pay Mr Capen for it as any man or men shall doe according to former Towne order if any thing by God prouedance shall hinder Mr Capen ordenation a mongst Vs.

Voated,

The Towne Confirmed the bounds Laid out by John How & John Gould Senr to Mr Hobart of a pond & three eackers of Vpland to stand good to Samuel Howlett & his assignes for euer.

Voated.

John Houey entred his Contrey desent to ye Voat aboue Whighteen Wee Whose Names are Vnder Whighteen being apointed by ye Towne to Lay out three eackers of Land that ye Towne granted to Mr Jere Hobart Wee accordingly haue don it. beginning at ye pond by a stompe with a heape of stones at it being one ye North sid of ye Land and soe Rueing Esterly to a stake with a heap of stones at it and from thence sowertly to a Littell blake oacke marked With a heape of stones at it and from that Westerly to fouer Littell whiat oackes marked with a heape of stones at it a Joning to ye pond and ye hounds of ye pond

from ye whiat oackes marked as before said all a Long as ye trees bee marked to ye stompe with a heape of stones as before said the Land Joyning to ye pond ye whiate oackes and ye stompe with ye stones at them doe Jone to ye pond being the two fouer bounds of ye three eackers of Land dated ye eight day of march 1677 or 78

John Gould,

John How.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 21 Nouember 1682 The Towne has giuen power to ye select men to Let ye parsoniage house & barne & land belonging to it so as it may repare it selfe and not come to a Towne Charged to be repaired. Voated.

The Towne has Left it to ye selectmen adding Will: Auerey & Leacke Estey & John Wilds to ye selectmen for ye seateing of pepall in our meeting house. Voated.

A Rate deliuered to Daniell Redington Constable for ye Contry a mounting to twenty ffe pounds for ye yeare 1681 and a rate for ye Connty treseary of ffe pounds in ye yeare 1682 and a rate for ye Contrey amounting to thurty pounds for ye yeare 1682.

There is a Towne Rate deliuered to Daniell Redington Constabell a mounting to twenty fouer pounds ffeeteene shiling & apeney hareing date 26 desembr 1682.

the Towne detes that ye Constabell is to pay out of this rate is twenty fouer pounds ffeeteene shilings & apeney.

At a Lawfull Meeting of ye Selectmen ye 16 of Jenewary 1682.

The Selectmen haue agreed with Samuel Symons to set Vp a galerey at

ye West end of ye meeting hous of Topsfeild and ye said Symons Symons is to take pay of those that site in ye galerey for his Worke: & if any dos die or remoue and those that dos siruie them dos not Continuen Constant herers and Contributers to ye Word of God here at Topsfeild then it tis Left to ye maior part of ye Constant herers and Contributers to ye Word of God here at Topsfeild Whether thay Will by ye seats or giue them Liberty to sell to home thay see Good: also Samuel Symons has Liberty to alter ye stares that goes Vp into ye galerey now and to make one other pare of stares that shall goe into the galerey that ye sd Symons is to set Vp: and into ye galery that is already set Vp & if thay that sit in ye galery now will not bee at ye Charge of ye remoueing of ye stares With those yt dos sit in ye galerey that ye sd Symons dos set Vp then it tis to be put one a Towne a Count: also ye said Symons has Liberty to remoue ye Windoe that is ouer ye dore Wheare he is to set Vp ye galerey Leueing one Lite be Low

Thomas perkins  
Jacob Townes  
francies pebody  
John Redington  
John Gould

At a Lawfull meeting of ye selectmen ye 16 of Jenewr 1682

et was Voated by ye Seclectmen and Contlued by them that John Gould should send worants for Will: Auerey senr & Mr Will: perkins & John Houey & Will: Nickles which wee haue Chosen for Tieniugmen for this yeare to Come to ye said Gould house and take there oathes a Cording to

Law for wee haue apionted ye sd Gould to giue them there oathes as ye Law derects

Voated.

At A Lawfull meeting of ye seclctmen ye 30 Jenewr 1682 or 83.

Wee haue Chosen Corpr Will: Smith to kepe ornorey at Topsfeild which wee doe desier this honered Court to point him a tirm for yt end also wee haueing our prinerall Towne meeting in cold wether wee doe a Low Corpr Smith to sell beer to ye Townsmen that day and to kepe a fier in ye hous that day for The Towne to remoue there meeting and if thay see Case demand

At A Lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the: 6: march 1682 or 83.

John Gould was chosen to kepe ye Towne booke for ye yeare insueing

Corpr William Smith is Chosen Constabell for ye yeare insueing for Topsfeild

Sergt Isack Comings is Chosen to serue one ye Jeruey of triall the next Court hild at Ipswich the Last tusday of this Instant march

Mr Thomas Baker Isacke Estey Clarke Sargt Ephrom Dorman Samuel Howlett & John Gould Senr: are chosen seclctmen for to order ye pre-denchall afaiers of ye Towne for this yeare insueing: only wee prohibbit them from giueing or selling or ex-chaing any of ye Townes Land

Daniell Clarke Coming into ye Towne meeting the 6 of march 1682 or 83 and saing that hee had noe wright in ye Coming

The Towne has Voated Goodman Clarke a Comminer

Voated

The Towne has a greed that Sam-

uel Symons shall set Vp a galerey at ye Este end of ye meeting house apon ye same Conditione that hee has a greed with ye seclctmen to set Vp one galerey at ye West end of ye meeting house

Voated

The Towne has manisfected by Voate that thay doe desier Abraham Redington Senr to Come and site in ye fore seeate and old Goodman Nicklos in ye seckond seeate

Voated

The Towne has a greed by Voate to pepition ye Generall Courte for an axplanation of there grants of Topsfeild bounds

Voated

The Towne does by Voat declare that there shall bee appetion prefered to ye Honered Generall Court for there axplaiing of two grants vpon Court reckons one baring date 1643 the other in ye yeare 1658: this petition shall be prefered by Mr Tho Baker Jacob Townes and John How or whome thay shall desier to Joyne with them.

The Towne has granted to Daniell Clarke that Littell silipe of Land that hee has fenced in betweene his house and that house as peter Shamway did Liue in but ye sd Clarke is not to remoue his fence any forder apon ye Towne Common then it dos now stand

Voated

John Wilds & Elisha perkins are Chosen to be seueruoyes for hie Wayes & ffences for this yeare

Voated

Wee Whose Names are Vnder Wrighteen Beeing Apionted by the Towne of Topsfeild to Lay out to Mr Capen tweuele Eackers of Land it being Vpland and Swampe & medoe as is in ye Towne booke expresed

Wee accordingly haue don it: begin-  
ing at astake standing apon the plaine  
next to Goodman How so Ruing

norerly two and thury rod to a  
Littell red oacke marked with a heape  
of stones at it: and from thence  
roining Esterly apon a straight Line  
to anelme marked With a heape of  
stones at it this Line is sixty rod  
Longe: and from the Elme apon a  
straight Line to a nash marked in the  
swampe neere Mr William perkins  
and this Line is thury eaight rod  
Longe and from ye ashe tree apon a  
straight Line to the stake before  
named as Witnes our hands this 28th  
of febewary 1682 or 83

ffrauces Pebody  
John Wilds  
Jacob Townes senr  
John Gould senr

At a Lawfull meeting of ye select-  
men ye 13 March 1682 or 83

John Wilds is Chosen a tieingman  
and his presinkes is from Samuel How-  
lett & all ye ffaimelies there about by  
Deckon perkins & all about Daniell  
Clarke & Tobigha perkins is Chosen  
a tieingman & his presinkes is all ye  
ffaimeles ffrom Sargt Comings to  
John prichats to Mr Baker & to  
William Auerey John Robinson is  
Chosen a tieingman and his pre-  
sinkes is all a Longe from Corpr  
Townes Vp to John Gould John  
Nicklas is Chosen a tieingman ff all  
ye ffaimeles one that sid ye riuver hee  
Liues one.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye select-  
men the 23 of Apriell 1683 Lliut  
Pebody & Mr Thomas Baker & John  
How are Chosen to meeete With ye  
Gentellmen that Come from Ipswich  
at William Howlett one the twenty

forth of this Instant month to settell  
a Line betwene Ipswich and Tops-  
feild.

I John How doe acknolig that I  
haue Reseued of Lliut pebody the  
ffouer pounds ninee shilings and two  
pence that ye Towne did a gree by  
Voat to pay mee for so much as they  
had rated ye Gouner Symon Brad-  
street Esqr for and ye Gounr not  
paying of it ye Towne did pas a  
Voat the forth of Nouember 1681 that  
I should haue it in a Towne rate: a  
Towne rate being made for that end  
and deliuered to Lleut pebody I doe  
acknolig that I haue Reseued the  
hole some as is aboue expresed as  
Witnes my hand this 23 of Apriell  
1683

John How.

Witnes John Gould Recorder for  
Topsfeild.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Towne  
of Topsfeild the 4 May 1683

Sargt John Redington is Chosen  
Ganieuery man for this yeare for  
Topsfeild.

At A Lawfull Towne meeting the  
4: May 1683 the Towne has giuene  
power to Lliut pebody & Mr Thomas  
Baker & John Wilds & Sargt Dor-  
man to git Ipswich men to take of  
the Conditions that is in there grant  
to us and then to settell a Line With  
Ipswich for our Towne Voated

there Was a rate made by Vartey  
of a Worant from ye Contrey Tres-  
erur of two pound seuenteene shilings  
& aLeuene pence to be paid in mon-  
ey for Vnimproued Land his warrant  
did bare date Boston 27th March  
1683 & it was made ye 9 March 1683  
and deliuered to ye Consrabell of  
Topsfeild

there Was a rate made by Vartey  
of a Warrant from ye Contrey Tres-  
erur of ten pounds two shilings to be  
paid in money for our agants and  
other neseray Charges for ye Contrey  
and delieured to ye Constabell the  
9 May 1683: the Treseuer Warrant  
did bare date Boston March 27th 1683.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Sec-  
lectmen of Topsfeild ye 23 of July  
1683

Whareas Wee did Reseue a Wright-  
teen from ye Seclectmen of Salam  
to apiont two men to meeete som  
men thay chose at Liut Thomas  
putnam one frieday next to Lay out  
a Contrey hie Way: betwene Salam  
& Andeuer

Wee haue Carefuly Looked into ye  
Law and Wee find that Wee haue  
noe power to Chose men for that end  
for ye Law dos Say ye Townes shall  
doe it: in Loue Wee have Chosen  
two men to Come to meeete yu to tell  
yu ye reson Whie Wee Could doe  
noe more at this time and ye two  
men that are Chosen is Lliut Tho:  
Baker & John Gould

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 22  
of agust 1683

John ffanch Was Chosen a Com-  
missioner to Joyne with ye seclctmen  
to take a List of all male persons  
and other estates as ye Law drects  
and to Carey it to ye shere Towne  
and to Joyne With ye Commissioner  
there as ye Law drects. Voted

At a Lawfull meeting of ye sec-  
lectmen of Topsfeild the 28 agust  
1683

There being great Complaints Com-  
ing to Vs about many pepell Letting  
there rames rune apon ye Com-  
mon to ye great damige of the breed

of sheepe in or Towne and ye owners  
of the rames Will take noe Care to  
prfent ye damige that Comes by  
rames ruing one ye Common at Lib-  
erty Therefore to prfent forder dam-  
ige by rames: ruing one ye Common  
it tis hereby declared by ye seclct-  
men that that man or men yt dos not  
fforth with take Vp his ram or rames  
from ruing at Liberty one ye Com-  
mon or one any open ground yt is  
not inclosed shall forfite ye one halfe  
of ye said ram to him yt take ye sd  
ram Vp and ye man yt take Vp ye  
ram is to Crie ye ram a Cording to  
Law and if noe owner apeere Within  
ten dayes then he yt take up ye ram  
has Liberty to kille ye ram or to se-  
kuere him from doeing damige as  
before expresed and if ye owner dos  
apeere Within one fortnight ye one  
halfe of ye ram so taken Vp to ye  
owner and ye other halfe to ye man  
yt tooke him Vp and if noe owner  
apeere within ye time before expresed  
then one halfe of ye ram so taken  
Vp to ye Ves of ye Towne and there  
is noe Liberty for rames to rune one  
ye ground Vninclosed from ye tenth  
of July to ye twelth of Nouember  
and any man has Liberty to take Vp  
any ram so ruing within this time and  
this order to stand in force tell ye  
Towne see Case to make some other  
order about rames or ye seclctmen  
see good to repeal it. Voated

Apriell 22 1664.

Acording to the order of the Hon-  
oured Generall Court May the  
Seuenth 1662 Wee Whos names are  
hereunto subscribed ruinge the deuid-  
ing Line between Salam and Tops-  
feild. Wee rune from Sal'm meeting  
house six miles apon playne ground

(by trauis) somthing more Westerly then the north and by West poynt Wheare wee set a stake and erected a heape of stones, there standing a White oak a bout two or three pole more southerly of it marked with S T and from that heape of stones Wee first rune Eastward Circularly and marked a Whitoake with S T and so continuinge the Line With marked trees Vntill Wee Came at Bishops meow to a red oake marked at the north end of Bishops greater part of medow and so runinge betweene the two meadows ouer Bish- ops brooke to a White oake and from thence to Long Sponge almost all the way through it by maples and one wallnut tree marked in the Sponge from thence crose Thomas putnams medow to a red oake marked on the east side of it and so ouer the hill Through ffarmer porters medow Vnto a Littell Whit oake marked with T S which stands on the east side of the high way by the forde ouer the brooke Which is Commonly Called stoney brooke from thence it runes cross on other parcel of ffarmer porters medow on the north end of the Long hill which Lyeth on the south east of the said medow by a marked Wallnut tree and from thence to Wennum Line Which Line from the heape of stones is about two mille and one halfe.

Then Wee began at the first heape of stones and ran towards the south east (still keping six milles from Salam meeting house) Wee rune ouer the northeast end of Maior Haith- erns hill about sixty pole by estema- tion from his medow from thence ruining by a marked tree ouer part of Mr Currins farme Crose by the sid

of a Sponge of medow Which Lyeth Vpon Ipswich riuver neare thury pole from the riuer, and from thence the Line runs be Low the side of the steepe hill by the side of the medow Vnto a marked pine and from that a Longe in that narrow Sponge of medow Vnto an other pine marked With S T standing in a Litell pine swampe on the east sid of the Litell brooke about two pole from it, from thence it ran through Henry ffelphs feeld on the east sid of his house Vnto agreat red oake marked with S T standing a bout ten pole Westward of Andeuer road to Salam and from thence to a pine forward in the Line and so to a duble Whiat oake mark- ed as before Which stands on the south of a Littell medow fenced in and from that to redding Line soe that this South West Line is a bout four milles from the heape of stones, all Which markes was faithfully and exactly wrought acording to the rulles of art and the Whole bounds of Salam as now wee haue rune it is full six miles from Salam meeting hous

Thomas Noyes  
Jonathan Danforth

this was entred by Voate & order of ye Seclectmen of Topsfeild in to there Towne booke

This is a true Copey Compared With the orignall as atested by mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild

at a Lawfull meeting of ye Town of Topsfeild the 2 day of Nouember 1683

the men that ye Towne did impow- er to sue and petition for the Lands that ware by Salam granted in or bounds haue don it and Come to ye

Towne for there waiges and their being but a small aperance the Towne sees good to a Jorne there Towne meeting tell ten aClcke in ye morn ye twenty of this Instant

At a Lawfull Towne meeting hild apon a Jorment ye 20 Noumber 1683

The Towne did manifest by Voate that the three meu namely Lliut Thomas Baker Corpr Jacob Townes and John How shall haue ye one halfe of ye Land that thay doe recouer for ye Towne as fast as thay doe recouer it Leauing one halfe to ye Towne all wayes as fast as thay doe recouer it and thay are impowered to goe one With perticklers sutes as fast as thay can tell thay haue recouered all as is ye Townes a Cording to Generell Court order and ye Land that shall be recouered by this aboue named men shall be eaquely defid betwene ye Towne and ye aboue named men Eaquelly both for quanty & qualety and there halfe shall be for there sattisfaxtion for all there disbursments a Cording to Towne order

Voated

Wee Whose naines are Vnder Wrighteen doe fully Consent to & With ye Towne that ye Towne shall haue ye forst profer of bying our parts of Land and if Wee doe sell it the True meing is to any inhabitaunes of or Towne this is a full agreement with the three men and ye Towne

Lliut Thomas Baker  
Corpr Jacob Townes  
John How

This is a true Copey Compared with ye three aboue named men Consent there hands being set to it as it tis now in ye Towne Booke as atested P mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild

Reced June 12th 1683 from Daniell Redington of Topsfeild in full of said Townes proportion to fife Rates ye some of thurty fflue pounds fouer shilings in Contry pay & twenty pounds two shilings in money

P Jame Russel Tresuer

This is a true Copey Compared with ye Tresuer reseate as atested John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild

Thomas Baker

This 22th of desember 1683

Receued of Daniell Redington of Topsfeild in full of his County rate in ye year 82 ye some of fflue pounds one shilings I say Resued P mee Robart Payne Tresuer 82

This is a true Copey Compared with ye Tresuer Reseate as atested P mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild

Samuel Howlett

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 25 desember 1683 John Gould senr and John Wilds are Chosen to deuide the Land by Whenham Line with Lliut Baker & Corpr Townes and John How that peice of Land as ye aboued named men did git of whenham men forder then or Line did rune before

Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 25 desember 1688 The Towne did giue mr Capen Liberty to set Vp a seate at ye Vpper end of ye pulpit

Voated

Wee doe hereby declare yt wee are Utterly Vnwilling to yeeld ether to a Rasignation of the Charter or to anything yt shall be equeualent thereto Vnto Wherby ye foundation there of should be raced.

This Was Voated by or Towne and ye Inhabatiance about Vs yt doe

**Vesaly Come to or meetings Voated**

Wee Whoes Names are Vnder  
Wrighteen doe hereby declare that  
Wee are desierous yt all humbell  
applecation be made to his Maiesty  
yt Wee may still inioy or priuiliges  
acording to charter

John How  
William perkins  
John Robinson  
John Wilds  
John Townes

Wee being Chosen by ye Towne  
to deuide aparcell of Lland that Was  
obtained by Lliut Baker Corpr Townes  
& John How by ye settlement of a  
Line Whit Whenham as will apeere  
in ye Towne Booke Vnder there  
hands that is a Commitey Chosen by  
Topsfeild to settell ye Lines betwene  
Whenham & Topsfeild and ye Towne  
of Topsfeild did grant to Liut Baker  
Corpr Townes & Jhn How ye one  
halfe of ye Land for there paynes &  
Cost thay haue bin out about it and  
chose John Gould senr & John Wilds  
to goe and deuide the Land With ye  
three aboue named men Which Wee  
haue done as foileth, the fforst Line  
begines at Joseph porters medoe and  
ye bounds settled by Whenham and  
Topsfeild next Whenham Caesway  
to a bunch of mapels at ye brooke  
shall remaine to ye Towne & ye  
brooke the bounds ye next marked  
bunch of maples at a Litell Iland at  
ye end of Sargt Townes medow and  
the swamp one ye East side of the  
brooke the swamp and medow and  
Hucklebuerey Iland a Cording to  
agreement With Whenham shall Re-  
maine to Lliut Baker Corpr Townes  
and John How this is a deuistion a  
greed apon and settled by Vs:

Dated ye 28 desember 1683

John Gould senr  
John Willd  
Thomas Baker  
John How

Lliut Baker & John How signe in ye  
behalfe of Corpr Townes as atested  
John Gould recorder for Topsfeild

Daniell Redington Constabel Came  
to mee ye the 4th march 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  and  
brought mee Reseates of ye pertick-  
ler somes as he was ordered by the  
seclectmen to pay out of a rate made  
and Deliuered to him to gather Vp of  
twenty fouer pounds and ffuiteene  
shilings and a peney and ye reseates  
Vnder the pertickler persons hands  
as it did apeere so that ye Constabell  
is fuly discharged of that rate of 24lb  
15s : 01 d

I say this is true as atested by  
mee John Gould Recorder for Tops-  
feild

at a meting of the salactmen the  
18 of september 1677 :

in Relation to the Law Concorning  
tithe men: we haue maed Chois:  
of mr Willyem Perkins Saner and  
Daken Thomus Perkins and Sargent  
Edman Town and Willyem Niquells  
as tithe men for Topsfield: mr  
Willyem Perkins is to in spact thos  
ffollowing ffamelis, Left ffancis Pa-  
body: mr Thomus Baker Thomus  
Dorman willyem Averell Daniell Bor-  
man Ephrim Dorman John Houye  
John Pretchet: Isack Comins:

Daken Perkins is to in spact thos  
ffollowing ffamelis sargt: John Rad-  
ington John Willd John franch  
Samuell Howlet Micall Donell John  
Comins Willyem Howlet: mr John  
Brodstreet Sargt Edman Town is to  
in spact thos ffollowing ffamelys En-  
signe John Gould John Curtis Mathow  
stanly James Watters Joseph Town

Isack Easty Jacob Town John Robi-  
son Daniell Clark John How Lak  
wakliin willyem Perkins Willyem  
Niquells is to inspect thos ffollowing  
ffamelys John Niquells Thomus  
Kaney willyem Hobb Philip Knight  
John Gould  
frances pabody

Seuerall Rates made and deliuered  
to Corpr Smith Constabell bareing  
date 14th Jenewary 1683  
to one Rate for ye County at 08-15-00  
to one Singell Country rate at 08-15-  
00

to one rate & a halfe for ye Contry  
in money & depytes wages which  
all dos Come to 22-01-06  
one ministerys rate which Comes to  
65£ one thurd of it money 65-00-00  
all thes rates are to bee payed in  
yt yeare 1683

At a Generall Court of Election  
held at Boston 10th day of third  
month 1643

Whereas the Court holden at Boston  
the 4th 7m 1639 there Was Certaine  
Lands Lying neere Ipswich Riuers  
granted for a Village Either to sume  
of the Inhabitants of Salam or Sume  
of the Inhabitants of Ipswich Whoe  
haue farmes neere Vnto the said Land  
to be injoyed by .thoese Whoe first  
Setled a Village theere thay boath pre-  
pounding for it to gether : how euer  
the order mentioneth, only Salam  
inhabitants, and for as much as the  
inhabitants of Ipswich haue for  
neere this two yeare procured &  
maintained one to dispence the Word  
of God Vnto them, Which thay in-  
tend to Continue : It is therefore  
ordered & granted that Mr John En-  
decott, & the said Inhabitants of  
Ipswich Viz Mr Bradstreet, Mr Sy-  
monds Mr Whittingam Mr William

paine Mr Robert payne & Such other  
of Ipswich, or Salam as thay shall  
assosiate to themselues, shall haue  
Liberty to settle a Villadge neere the  
said Riuer of Ipswich, as it may bee  
most Convenient for them, to Which  
the afore said Land shall be Long  
Vizt all that Which Lyeth neere the  
said Riuer not formerly granted to  
any Towne or pson prouided that any  
of the Inhabitants of Salam, Whoe  
haue farmes neere Vnto the said  
Land now granted shall haue Liberty  
for one yeare next Coming to Joyne  
With the said Vilage, & to haue  
theire equeall & proportionable pri-  
uiledg in the same. And Wheareas  
Mr Bradstreet hath Liberty granted  
him to take his farme of fие hundred  
acrs in the next Convenient place,  
that is fitt for a farme. to that Which  
is granted to Mr John Endecott  
Which may proue prejudicall to the  
said Village, It is therefore ordered  
that the said Mr Bradstreete shall  
haue Liberty to take, his said farme of  
fие hundred acres in any other place  
not yett granted to any Towne or  
pson not prejudicall to any plantation  
made or to be made Which When  
hee hath so done & manefested the  
same to this Court his aforesd grant  
shall forth With be Voyd & the sd  
Lands shall be Long to the Village  
before mentioned to be disposed of  
by the Inhabitants there of for the  
good of the Whole and if Salam &  
Ipswich shall not agree before the  
next Court about a peall of meddow,  
now desired by Salam, to be to  
Whenham, then the Court shall deter-  
min it

That this is a true Coppy taken out  
of the Courts Book of Records is  
atested by Edward Rawson Sectary

Vera Copia of yt Coppy taken by mee

Hilliard Veren Clerk

This is a true Coppy taken of yt Coppy by mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild.

At a Generall Court held at Boston the 19 october 1658

In answer to the petition of the Inhabitants of Topffeild It being put to the question Whether, the Lands of Salam shal be accoumpted to Run from the meeting house six miles into the woods & noe more, Alwaies prouided that the pticular psons to Whome Lands haue beene granted by Salem Within Topsfeild Line shall be Long to the proprietors The Court resolues this question in the affirmatiue.

This a True Coppy taken out of the Courts booke of Records as atested Edward Rawson Secterey

Copia Vera of that Coppy attested Hilliard Vrin Clerk

This is a true Coppy of that Coppy taken P mee John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

At A Generall Court hild at Boston 10th of october 1683

In Answer to ye petition of Thomas Baker Jacobe Townes and John How of Topsfeild for explanation of an order of Court made 19th of october 1658 refferring to Lands granted by Salem With in Topsfeild bounds Vpon A full hearing of the Case and What hath bine alleadged both by Salem and Topsfeild the Court doe Judge that the aforesaid order referrs only to such Lands as were granted by Salem before the tenth of may 1643.

That What is aboue Written is A true Copie taken out of the Courts

Records Attested Edward Rawson Sectrey

a Verie Copia of that Coppy as a tested John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

At A Lawfull Meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the 4th of March 1683 or 84

John Gould Senr is Chosen to kepe the Towne Bookes of reckords for this yeare in sueing Voated

Corpr William Smith is Chosen Constabell for this yeare insueing for Topsfeild

William Auery Senr is Chosen to Sarue one the Jeuerey of trialls the next County Court to beholden at Ipswich the Last tusday of this Instant March

ssargt Redington Corpr Jacob Townes John Houey Thomas Dorman John Gould Senr is Chosen Seclectmen to order the prudanciall afares of the Towne for this ensuing yeare prouied thay shall not diispose of any of ye Townes Land

at A Lawfull Towne meeting of the Towne of Topsfeild the 4th march 1683-84 Mr Tobigah perkins & Joseph Estev are Chosen seruayers for hie wayes for this insueing yeare Daniell Redington & Samuel Standley are Chosen fence Veueres for this Insueing yeare

Whareas the Towne had formerly giuen Lliberty to Liut pebody to set Vp a mell and to floe so much of the Townes Common as Was needfull for a mille (this Towne act not being found in ye Towne Booke) the Towne dos now by Voat declare that thay doe againe grant Lliberty to ye said pebody to float soe much of the

Townes Common {as is for ye good  
end Vese of ye mille so Long as ye  
mill doth stand and grind for ye  
Towne

Voated

The Towne has Chosen Lliut Pe-  
body & Lliut Baker and John Wilds  
& Sargt Dorman to rune and Settell  
a Line With Ipswich men betwene or  
Towne & Ipswich only the Towne dos  
prohabet the aboue named men from  
Consenting to any thing that may be  
to or Townes damige in Relation to  
making or Towne tresspasers in or  
Cattell Coming into the bounds of  
Ipswich

Voated

John Honey Thomas Dorman &  
John Gould Senr are Chosen a Com-  
mitey to Lay out a Countrey hie  
way from Rowely to Topsfeild

Voated

The Towne meeting is a Jorned  
to ye 18 of this instant march.

Mr Capen

Wheare as yu are pleased to moue  
something ConCorning the produoce  
of the parsoning which the Towne  
Jenerally say thay did not expect  
but seauerall say that yor selfe said  
yu would haue nothing to doe with it  
apon which the selectmen haue Leet  
it for twenty shillings a yeare. The  
Towne desiers to know yor mind sar-  
tin in that thing and if yu doe wholy  
renownce the parsonige the Towne  
will then answer yor Request in add-  
ing six pounds to yor Salery for pro-  
viding yu ffier wood by the yeare  
Leauing our frinds of the Vilige and  
ffarmers to doe what thay will in that  
respect

Voated

William Auerey Sener enters his  
Contrey desent to ye Voat aboue

wrighteen

I do hereby declare my rediness &  
Willingness to accept of ye aboue  
mentioned proposall of ye addition  
of six pounds to my salery for ye  
precurring of my fierwood and do also  
hereby renounce ye use of ye per-  
sonage Which I Vnderstand is by yor  
selues Concluded that I did expect

Your Saruant Joseph Capen

This is a true Copey of What Mr  
Capen did send to ye Towne the 18  
of March 1683 or 84 as atested by  
mee John Gould

recorder for Topsfeild

Wetnesis

John How

Ephraim Dorman

At A Lawfull Towne Meeting of  
the Towne of Topsfeild the 22  
Apriell 1684

The Towne made Chose of Lliut  
pebody Lliut Baker Corpr Townes  
John Wilds Sargt Dorman John  
Houey & John How to settell a Line  
With Ipswich betwene Ipswich &  
Topsfeild and any fouer or fwe of  
them agreeing With those men that  
Ipswich shall Chose for yt end shall  
stand and thay haue full power to  
agree With Ipswich for thare settel-  
ment of a Line Which hath neuer bin  
don sence Wee ware a Towne

Voated

The Towne has agreed that a de-  
puty yt goes to ye Generall Court  
shall haue but ffiteene shilings pr  
weeake in Countrey pay also thay  
haue a greeed yt a deputy shall goe  
to ye Generall Court apon ye Condi-  
tions aboue said

Voated

## The Howlettes and Clarks.

### TWO OLD TOPSFIELD FAMILIES.

By MARIETTA CLARK.

It goes without saying that, in examining the records of the past, the farther back we go, the more misty and meagre do they become. Just as we fancy that we are on the verge of a discovery, some important document is missing, making a broken link in our chain of evidence to be repaired as best we may.

The first items bearing upon the subject in hand, the settlement of our farm and its immediate vicinity, I have copied from the Ipswich records.

"Mr. Appleton, Sargeant Howlett, John Perkins and Thomas Scott were appointed to assist the lott layers in laying out Mr. Dudley's, Mr. Bradstreets and Mr. Saltonstalls farmes before the fourteenth of May, 1637."

"1642. Mr. Bartholemew, George Giddings, Jo Whipple, Sargeant Howlett have full power to lay out the land to Mr. Rogers which he bought of Mr. Tuttle."

That this land was laid out we infer from the fact that Ensigne Howlett was credited by the town of Ipswich for "five days about Mr. Rogers," but we are left to get an idea of its whereabouts as best we can from the following grant to Mr. William Payne:— "Also a farme granted unto him at the New Meddowes, one pt of it lying beyond the farme granted to John Webster, having a swamp on the North, a brook

towards the northwest, the river towards the south, pt. of the meddowes lying on the south syde the river. The other pt. of the said farme lyeing nearer the towne by Mr. Whitinghams bounds by the land of Symon Broadstreet and the land of Mr. Whitingham toward the south and southwest, by the land of Mr. Samuel Symonds towards the northwest, a poynt coming to the four mile brook, having the land of Mr. Broadstreet on the east and the land of Mr. Roggers toward the northeast. The whole farme containing four hundred acres more or less. To have and to hold and to enjoy all the sayd premises unto the sayd William Payne and to his heirs forever.

Dated the 20th of the 11th 1647."

Another record gives us a little more light on the location of this land.

"Voted that Mr. William Payne shall have thirty pounds paid him for his farme lyeing beyond Gravelly brook, at or before this time twelve-month, or else the said William Payne is to have the little Neck. Also the barnes and his two acres of ground at the little Necke is to be prized by indiferent men, and paid to him besides his thirty pounds, one chosen by the towne and one by Mr. Payne, and if they agree then they to choose a third man.

At the general meeting the 22

(12.) 1649."

At the same meeting.

"Mr. Nathaniel Roggers is possessed by the grant of the towne of a farme at the New Meddowes containing three hundred acres, bounded by Broadstreet his farme on the south, Mr. Saltonstalls farme east the common north and northeast, Mr. William Payne northeast to enjoy all the several grants to him and his heirs forever."

We next find the following copied into our own records:

"At a general Towne meeting (Ipswich) Feb ye 9th mnth, 1651."

"Granted to Ensign Thomas Howlett six acres of Upland to be joined to the farme which hee bought of Mr. Roggers wheare the said Ensigne have built his house."

"This particular (with five others) above are true coppies taken out of the Towne book of Ipswich as they are there recorded."

"John Brewer, Clarke of ye towne of Ipswich." "Aprell 23, 1684"

"Thes are True coppies of these Copies as atested b me, John Gould, Recorder for Topsfield."

"Witneis to the Copeyes as they be presented to Us under ye Clarke of Ipswich hands besides or Clarke hand."

**John How**                    **William Smith, jr.**

I could find no other record save that given in this "copey" of the "farne" which Ensign Howlett "bought of Mr. Roggers." There was no deed; the transaction was not mentioned anywhere else. We are left to learn the location of that land in a somewhat imperfect way from subsequent papers. But the six acres granted by the town we are

able to identify almost certainly with the land extending from the mill-pond to the schoolhouse, bounded on one side by the schoolhouse woods, on the other by the highway as "wee go to Ipswich," now owned and occupied by the Perkins and Averill families. The house itself was located in the field behind Mrs. Perkins' house, on the side of a steep hill rising from the mill pond where a heap of stones still marks the site of the cellar, and a solitary birch stands sentinel over it. Mr. John P. Perkins, who has reached the age of seventy-five years, tells me that in his boyhood this cellar was open, and was afterwards filled with stones by some members of his family.

Ensign Howlett and his family were so closely identified with Topsfield affairs and so prominent in its history, that I have made some effort to learn all I could about them. The name is not now found in town, but many of his descendants are still living here. Among them are included the Cummings, Perkins, Peabody, Clarke, Towne and Peterson families.

I would that I might take you into a picture gallery, and present to you these first settlers as they looked in ye olden time, that we might learn something of their characters, their feelings, their sorrows and their joys. "We tread the paths their feet have worn," we still enjoy the fruits of their labors; but two centuries of time is not to be easily bridged over.

It is said to be the fashion now to trace ancestry back to England. I have not attempted to do this for

the Howlett family, but by what tant." seemed to me a curious coincidence I chanced to be reading Carlisle's life of Cromwell at the time that I was most interested in this subject, and I found in it the following paragraph:

"Olivers tutor in Cambridge, of whom legible history and I, know nothing, was Magister Richard Howlet, whom readers must fancy a grave ancient Puritan and Scholar, in dark antiquarian clothes and dark antiquarian ideas, according to their faculty. The indubitable fact is that he, Richard Howlet, did in Sidney Sussex College, with his best ability, endeavor to infiltrate something that he called instruction into the soul of Oliver Cromwell and of other youths submitted to him: but how, of what quality, with what method, with what result, will remain extremely obscure to every one."

The relationship of Richard Howlet to our Ensign Thomas is also "extremely obscure." We can only imagine that there might have been a connection between them.

The first record of Thomas Howlet we find in Ipswich.

"1633 March, John Winthrop and twelve others commence a settlement here, April 1st. The Court of Assistants forbid any to reside in this place, except those already come. Then follows a list of them, viz.— Mr. John Winthrop Jr., Mr. William Clerk, Robert Coles, Thomas Howlet, John Biggs, John Gage, Thomas Hardy, William Perkins, Mr. John Thorndike and William Serjeant. Three are wanting to make up the number. June 11th Thomas Sellon has permission to become an inhabi-

"1636. Granted to Thomas Howlett a house lot where his house now stands and which is now in his possession."

"1641. Thomas Howlett was a commoner in Ipswich." He is called in the early records "Sargent" Howlett. This title was probably gained in service against the Indians.

"Dec 4, 1643. It is agreed that each soldier for their service to the Indians shall be allowed 12 d. a day (allowing for the Lords day in respect of the extremity of the weather) and the officers double." Sargeant Howlett was one of the officers so I suppose he received "double."

He was continually employed by the town to run lines, lay out lands, etc. The following record will serve as an example of many similar ones.

"Feb. 10, 1640. Mr. Hubbard, Mr. William Payne, Mr. Tuttle, Sargeant Howlett and John Gage are chosen by the town and full powers given to them on the behalf of Ipswich to run the lyne and make the bounds between Salem and Ipswich."

"Sargeant" Howlett afterwards became Ensign. "1645. Youth from ten to sixteen years are to be exercised with small guns, half pikes, bow and arrows. Thomas Whitingham is confirmed as Lieutenant and Thomas Howlett as ensign of the company."

Ensign Howlett was an elder in the church. 1648. "Upon complaint of Major general Denison the elders Ensign Howlett, George Giddings and Thomas Bishop were appointed to settle the trouble about

his land."

In 1648 he was selectman of Ipswich. Ipswich, Feb. 27, 1658. "The seven men chosen for the year were Major Denison, Robert Lord, James Howe, Ensign Howlett, John Andrew jun., John Knolton, Thomas Treadwell."

I found in Felt's History of Ipswich an interesting explanation of this term "The Seven Men." When a church was gathered in New Haven in 1639, the Rev. J. Davenport directed the brethren "to select eleven of their most godly men as a nomination for church pillars, that there might be no blemish in church work." These were to choose seven among themselves, because it is read in Proverbs "Wisdom hath hewn out her seven pillars." I think the number of our selectmen will have to be increased.

Here we very probably have the reason for the number of eleven and seven men as contained not merely on the records of Ipswich but on those of other ancient towns. So closely connected were the civil and ecclesiastical concerns of our ancestors, so fixed were they in having no person hold any social trust, unless a professor of religion, that they would not hesitate to apply the same distinctive names to their chief men, as officers of the community, which they bore in relation to the church. There can be little doubt that the selecting of such individuals originally gave rise to the term select, as applied to the superintendents of town affairs. Not a few expressions which we often use without tracing them to their source, were once associated in other minds

with important occasions. At first the selectmen were elected for three months. They continued to be seven till 1823, when they were five.

The next year and afterwards to 1841 they were restored to the old number."

This, you will remember, was in Ipswich.

"Thomas Howlett was a deputy to a General Court held at 'Newe Towne' May 6. 1635. He represented Ipswich."

These are the principal records of Thomas Howlett in Ipswich. In 1651 or thereabouts we find him located on the hillside by the brook. After that time whatever abilities he may have had, seem to have been given to the service of the infant town of Topsfield.

In the history of Essex County, Ensign Howlett is given as one of the selectmen of Topsfield in 1659; but I was unable to find any such record previous to 1661. I give it entire.

"At a lawful towne meeting the 14th of the 10th month 1661 The inhabitants of ye towne hath made choyce of Insigne Howlet, Francis Peabodye and John Reedington, they are chosen for selectmen for the year folowing to order the prudential afaires of the towne and to settle the bounds of the towne between Salem and Topsfield and also to settle the bounds between the country and us, and also where they shall see any wrong don to the towne by any they have power to rectifie it by sute or otherwise. Voted."

Ensign Howlett was a commoner in Topsfield in 1661. He was the first deputy from Topsfield to the

general court in Boston, session of begins about twenty-five miles farther  
3d Aug., 1664. up the country, issuing forth a pleas-

"At a lawful Towne meeting ye ant pond. But soon after, it betakes  
9th of July 1667 The Inhabitance of its course through a most hideous  
ye Towne hath left to ye discretion swamp of large extent, even for  
of the Selectmen or major part of many miles, being a great harbour  
them to lay out a hie way from ye for bears. After its coming forth  
common ground which lye on the from this place, it groweth larger by  
south side of mile brook over against the income of many smaller rivers,  
Goodman Dorman and sargt. Pea- and issues forth into the sea, due  
bodye to Ensign Howletts brooke east against the Island of Sholes, a  
notwithstanding any former Towne great place of fishing for our English  
order whatsoever."

This is the first record which I You see by this record that Eusign  
have found of Howletts brooke called Howlett was also a deacon. That  
by that name. he was suitable for this office we

March 2, 1668-9. "It is also order- gather from the following: "1644  
ed and agreed upon With Ensign Sargent Howlett fined for felling 4  
Thomas Howlett that they will make trees for rale and planks (which he  
and maintain a bridge over ye brooke made known himself.)" Good, honest  
by Ensignes house in ye way as wee soul! He should indeed be a deacon  
go to Ipswich ye one half to be done beyond a peradventure.

by the towne and the other half by Ensign Thomas Howlett married  
ye said Ensigne."

"18d 1m 1671-2. The towne doth His children were: Samuel, William,  
grant to Deacon Howlett, Lieut. Pea- born 1650, Thomas, John, Nathaniel,  
bodye. Isacke Esty, Joseph Towne, Sarah and Mary. Thomas, John  
Corporal Edmund Towne and Thom- and Nathaniel died before their  
as Baker all the swamp meadow that father, Sarah married John Cum-  
lyeth upon the river called Ipswich mings, Mary married a Perley. His  
river extending from the lower part wife Alice died in 1666, and he mar-  
of the Governor's meadow down to ried a second wife Rebecca who sur-  
the bridge that goeth over the mead- vived him. He died himself the 22d  
ow below old goodman Townes for of Dec., 1677, aged 79 years. Of the  
and in consideration of fifty pounds two sons Samuel and William who  
ye towne hath received of the above were left to represent the family in  
named parties the meadow herein Topsfield, not much is said of Wil-  
mentioned lyeth on the south side of liam in the records. To him was  
Ipswich river."

I presume this is the same swamp last paragraph of his father's will  
referred to in Felt's history, now reads as follows: "Lastly, I ordain  
known as Wenham swamp. "River my son William Howlett my sole  
Ipswich. Speaking of this, Johnson executor of this my last will and tes-  
says 1646: "A faire and delightful tament, to whom I give, my debts  
river, whose first rise or spring being paid, all the rest of my estate,

housing, lands, goods—and profits of walk and conversation that he is all sorts—unto him and his heirs known in the family as Old Hundred, forever.” began to show symptoms of sup-

But it was upon Samuel that his pressed excitement. Whether he father's mantle fell. Like him he thought he perceived the ghosts of went through all the offices, from the departed Howletts peering at Sergeant upwards. He was a black- him from behind the bushes I cannot smith and “At a lawful Towne meet- tell, but he certainly looked around ing ye 15 January 1668 The Inhabi- in a nervous and suspicious manner tants of ye Towne hath given Samuel and manifested a most unwonted Howlett an invitation to come to the desire to go. When he came out on town and set up his trade of smithing the travelled road he showed symp- to do ye Townes worke.” toms of unseemly hilarity, and after

“Upon consideration yt Samuel indulging himself in various antics a Howlett promiseth to ye towne to pair of heels came flying up into the Come and set up his trade in ye air. Undoubtedly this was a great towne and doe there worke, they have relief to his mind but it had upon me given him four acres of land upon a contrary effect. I alighted from the Common Hill next to William my carriage, and we walked home Smith and John ffrainch land.” together very peaceably.

We may naturally suppose that The second time I was more suc- this “Common Hill” was the place cessful. Leaving my quadruped in where his house was located, as we another's care I climbed the “Com- know that he lived on a hill. on what mon Hill” and had no difficulty in is called Howlett St., just behind the finding Samuel Howlett's cellar and Methodist-meeting house. Right well. It was just after a heavy rain here let me say that I shall never and they were both partially filled again say church without an inward with water. A tree had sprung up protest. In England they erected from the side of the well, a maple churches, but our fathers built meet- tree I judged, though the leaves had ing-houses. fallen and the little new buds were

I went to explore Howlett St. and starting out ready for another spring. find the site of Samuel Howlett's I was struck with the beauty of home one day in the early fall. It the situation. Were it not that the was one of those beautiful days when whole hill seems surcharged with there was a haze on the hills and it water, I should prophesy that Samuel was joy enough simply to be alive. Howlett's taste will some time be I had not been on the old road for a vindicated and the “Common Hill” long time, and was entirely unpre- once more be built upon. I looked pared for its rough condition. After about me and tried to fancy how it I had seen several rocks as large as appeared in ye olden times. There tea-kettles lying in the path I began were no meeting-houses then in view to be somewhat alarmed. My horse, and probably not many houses. It is who is so remarkable for the dignity reasonable to suppose the eye would of his demeanor, the solemnity of his rest on mostly unbroken forest and

perhaps the howl of a wolf might the Church was willing to baptize his salute the listening ear. In 1686 I children. [ ] did then confess he find the following record : had been several times overtaken

"And the Towne have agreed to with the fault, was sorry for the allow any as shall kill wolves in our same, the Church voted their satis-Towne that is to the Towne men ten faction willing to baptize his child-shillings apece for every wolfe so ren. There were present James Howsen., Francis Peabody, Nehemiah

wolves. I climbed the hill and walk- man, Samuel Perley, Samuel How-ed along where tradition locates the lett, William Howlett, Isaac Estie old blacksmith's shop. It is said to sen., and Sargent John Reddington, have been placed on the right hand who were all satisfied. Witness, side of the road as you go from the Tho. Dorman."

village, some little distance from the You notice that the name of the top of the hill, after the willows are culprit was mercifully withheld, with passed, before coming to the elms. I uncommon consideration it seemed am told that blacksmith's coal was to me. Probably they had a kind of ploughed up at this place. Another fellow feeling for him.

shop has also been located in the Sept. 20, 1701. "Sejeant Thomas same way at the foot of Joseph An-Dorman and Ensign Samuel Howlett drews' hill, opposite the road which branches off. Tradition gives us were chosen to be deacons although another house on the left hand side of the road at the top of the hill but no trace of that remains and it is not known to whom it belonged. of the church voted to have but one deacon chosen; but the number of votes for each being equal the church

known to whom it belonged."

But it is an undoubted fact that Good old deacon Samuel ! He Samuel Howlett lived here and plied must have been a most imposing his trade and filled all the offices from figure among the early settlers. One constable to representative. He was wonders how he looked and what he selectman and that continually. I said and how he compared with our find that he served the town in that present deacons. We fail to see how capacity sixteen years, four times he could have been any better. We is called plain Samuel, six times Ser- heartily hope he was no worse.

geant, once Ensign, and five Deacon. Samuel Howlett married Jan. 3, I find in Mr. Capen's record, as 1670-1, Sarah Clarke, the daughter copied by Mr. John Gould, a state- of my greatest-grandfather on these ment that he was chosen to the office shores. His children were John, of deacon in 1701. Let me give Mr. Mary, Sarah, Joannah, Martha. Su-Capeu's first record that we may for a sannah, Miriam and Samuel. From moment be transported back to the his will dated Apr. 4, 1720 I take the ye olden time. "Sept. 3, 1684 at a following: "Deacon Samuel How-Church meeting called with reference lett's will, Blacksmith."

to [ ] for his excessive drinking, "I give to my son John all the up-

land and meadow and housing of that old way to William Howletts brook; land he lives upon and all that upland trees being marked in certain places and meadow which lieth on the south the most of the way this was taken of Isaac Cummings land joining to from their own months dated 21 Mr. Bradstreets ford; excepting five march 1692-3.

acres of that which I do give to my son Samuel as a part of his portion. William Howlett married Mary Further I give to my son John five Perkins 27th Oct., 1671. He had but acres of meadow out of the Hasakie one child, Thomas, to whom he gives a deed, dated July 30, 1709, of his meadow."

"I give to my son Samuel all my farm lying on both sides of the brook homestead, housing and land and all being then the boundary between of my Hasakie meadow which his Ipswich and Topsfield. "Convey, brother John has a part of, and also confirm unto him my said son Thom- my shop and tools, only I would have as Howlett all that my farms, messu- him be so kind to his brother as to age or tenement which I myself and let him use them sometimes." my said son dwells." This Thomas

"I do order that all my bibles and sermon, books to be equally divided among my sons and daughters, Mary Wyld, Sarah Averill, Martha Dor- man, Susannah Sherwin, Miriam Standley."

Howlett married Rebecca Cummings, a daughter of the second Isaac. in 1695. Having no children of his own, he adopted Joseph Cummings, his wife's nephew, who became quite a figure in Topsfield history. As

We will now return from Samuel Howlett to his brother William by who died in 1713, he again disposes the following highway: "Sargt. John of his Ipswich and Topsfield farm by Hovey and Daniel Redington being a deed dated May 21, 1715, and apointed to lay out a highway from given to his nephew John Howlett Sargt. Samuel Howletts by Johu the son of his brother Samuel: "For Wilds his house to William Howletts and in consideration of a deed of sale brook accordingly they have done it, of this date made by John Howlett beginning at the county road and along on the south side of Samuel Howletts land and between Mr. Ca- pens land and the said Howletts land and so on the south side of Muddy Spring, so along the old cart way to John Wilds his land and so between Capt. French his house and barn, so along the old way to the north corner of Daniel Redingtons bounds by John Wilds his gate and so as the way now lyeth by the said Wilds his house and so along the old way to good and marketable Indian corn, mile brook bounds and still along the six bushels of good merchantble bar-

ley, malt, four bushels of rye, two bushels of wheat, one hundred pounds of good pork, four barrels of cider, six bushels of apples and firewood and fifty of pork sufficient for them at the door, the keeping of two cows winter and summer, and ten pounds of flax, tan, and eighteen pounds money, the running of two pigs at door and in the orchard; all this duty to be performed yearly by said John Howlett.

Convey, and confirm unto said John Howlett his heirs and assigns forever all my farm, messuage or tenement which I now dwell upon and that tenement which my son Thomas' widow dwells upon which farm and tenements are situated partly in Ipswich and partly in the township of Topsfield, containing by estimation one hundred acres be it more or be it less, lying partly on the north side of Ipswich river and partly on Topsfield line bounded as followeth: on the northeast by Ipswich town common on the east upon Ipswich river, west on land of Nathaniel Averill, Samuel Howlett and Ebenezer Averill, northwest on land of Lieut Tobijah Perkins, also all my woodland lying upon the south side of Ipswich river."

This deed mentions John Howlett's farm which he exchanged for this farm in "thick woods." This term will be found in many of the old deeds. My grandfather always used it. He would say "The sun is rising over thick woods" or "The fog is coming up over thick woods." I found a deed of this farm. "One piece whereon stands the dwelling house and barn about sixty acres. Beginning at a stake and heap of

stones by John Lampsons land at a place called the pond" thence up the hill and extending to the river on the other side. As I have not succeeded in finding any old cellar there, and as Joseph Cummings is known to have lived on the hill, it seems reasonable to suppose that John Howlett's house and barn were located at or near the place where Augustus Smith's buildings now stand.

In this deed I also find mention of the first tenement on our side of the brook, that is the "tenement which my son Thomas' widow dwells upon." I have no means of knowing how long this tenement had been there. I infer that it was situated there from subsequent records.

Of the second Samuel Howlett, son of the first Samuel, I find but scant mention. He married Martha Chapman of Boxford 3d April, 1722, and his children were Samuel, Martha, William, Dan, Mary and Davis. But it is John who is now settled by the brookside who keeps up the reputation of the family. He is sergeant, captain, selectman for ten years, representative and deacon. In 1718-19 I find the following record: "John Hovey, John Howlett and Jacob Peabody are chosen in behalf of ye towne of Topsfield to go to the towne of Ipswich to demand a highway to be laid out from Ipswich town by William Goodhues to Gravelly brook, and from thence by the house which was formerly William Howlett's to Topsfield line, and in case Ipswich town neglects or refuses to lay out said way then the aforesaid John Hovey, John Howlett and Jacob Peabody are empowered to make application to any court of quarter ses-

sions to be held in the county of Essex."

I must not omit to mention that Capt. John Howlett was a member of the first school committee in Topsfield in 1731-2. In 1723 "Deacon John Howlett and Mr. Nathaniel Porter are chosen agents for the town to appear at the next Inferior Court to be holden at Salem to answer to ye townes presentment for not being provided with a grammar school-master."

John Howlett married Bathsheba Hoyt 26th Dec., 1699. His children were John, Mary, William and Thomas. Mary married Jacob Clarke, a brother of my great-great-grandfather, Israel Clarke. By his will dated Aug. 21st, 1735 he gives to his "son William a small piece of land where my dwelling house now stands. And also I give to my son William the old part of my now dwelling house immediately after my wife's death or marriage and further my will is that if my son William shall be disposed to sell the house lot herein given to him that he shall give his brothers to wit John & Thomas the refusal thereof before he shall sell the same to any other person."

William Howlett sold out to his brother Thomas in 1738 and disappeared entirely from the scene; and I always imagined that Thomas did "pull down and carry away the newest end of my now dwelling house" and left the old part to decay, as it appears from a subsequent deed that there was no house in the old situation and Thomas Howlett was living at or near the place where the old Robinson house now stands.

Before the making of his will Capt.

John Howlett had given to his son, John Howlett, a deed of our present farm, the first deed ever given of the homestead by itself. "Deed from John Howlett to John Howlett junior:" "To all Christian people to whome these presents shall come I John Howlett do send greeting. Know ye that I John Howlett of Topsfield in the county of Essex in the province of the Massachusetts bay in New England yoeman: For and in consideration of that paternal love which I bear to my son John Howlett have given and granted and by these presents do freely, clearly and absolutely give and grant unto my said John Howlett his heirs, executors or administrators one Mesusage or tract of land together with the buildings thereupon situated lying and being in Ipswich in the county and province aforesaid containing by estimation twenty-four acres be it more or less butted and bounded as followeth. On the north on the land of Tobijah Perkins, on the west and northwest upon the brook as it runs to an ash tree marked standing below Ipswich road, from thence southeast upon a straight line to a swamp oak tree standing on the bank of Ipswich river, from thence east as the river runs, northeast upon Ipswich river and Paines hill lots which premises I give unto him my said John Howlett as three hundred pounds of his portion out of my estate to have and to hold all the said premises to him my said John Howlett his heirs executors and administrators from henceforth as his and their own proper right and estate peaceably to enjoy henceforth by virtue of these presents. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my

hand and seal the twentieth day of March one thousand seven hundred and twenty seven in the thirteenth year of his majesty king Georges reign."

John Howlett.

This deed refers to "Paine's hill lots." I have noticed that most of the early settlers in our part of the town had lots in Paine's hill pasture. It seems that it must have been at that time an extensive tract of land. The name Paines' hill is still given to the highest point in our land, and the pasture which contains it, now having but two owners, contains something like fifty or sixty acres. It would be quite interesting to know how far it formerly extended and how many owned lots in it. Felt's History of Ipswich states that the name Paine's Hill was given as early as 1689, but as William Paine's grant was in 1646 and he parted with the "farm" north of Gravelly brook in 1647, it seems as if the name was probably applied much earlier.

John Howlett, Jr., married Hannah Averill July 18, 1728. He died in 1746, leaving by will his property to his widow. I was very much interested in the fact that John Howlett mentions in his will "my niece Dorothy Clarke now living with me, the daughter of my sister Mary Clarke." She was in all probability the first Clarke who lived upon our place. This will some of his family attempted to break on account of his "being in a confeder poster on his brain." I am not very familiar with medical terms but that was all I could make of it, and though I know people have all sorts of things on their brains I never before heard of any one having

a "confeder poster." Whatever it was, they claimed that poor John Howlett had it, and his friends, neighbors and relatives, were forthwith summoned to court to tell all they knew about him. His brother Samuel's wife, Martha Howlett, testified that "John Howlett's wife told her that the said Howlett was become so disordered in his mind that he could not in a regular manner carry on his family prayer; for if he made an attempt to pray he would run into such nonsense that his prayer would turn into confusion, wherefor the Howletts wife had desired him to leave off praying in his family and accordingly he did." Poor John Howlett! People in higher places than you sometimes "run into nonsense" in their prayers, but I never heard that it was considered a sign of insanity.

In examining these papers after a lapse of one hundred and fifty years, it did not appear to me that John Howlett was of unsound mind. But I did gather the belief that if the secrets of his life could be made known, a tragedy would lie revealed.

However, nothing was proved against him, and his wife had the farm and immediately sold it to her husband's brother, Thomas Howlett, who sold it the same year to Andrew Burley. This brother himself died a few months later. I infer that his wife, Lydia Porter, and his children, Alice, John, Thomas, Ammirhami, Lydia and Allis, some or all of them, may have lived on his farm some years, as the estate was not divided until 1768. I found this Thomas Howlett's grave in the older part of the cemetery, lying somewhat

away from the other graves, the stone bearing this inscription "Here lies the body of Mr. Thomas Howlett, who died Sept. 14, 1746."

Of the second Samuel Howlett's family I find record of the marriage of the eldest son Samuel to Mary Redington, 22d Nov., 1744, and the births of two children, Samuel, born 29th Aug., 1745, and Elizabeth, 20th August, 1748. Then this entry is in the church records "Nov. 4, 1749. Voted each member pay 4 shillings old tenor and Samuel Howlett jun. Martha and Mary Howlett—dismissed—to church in Woodstock."

William, son of Samuel Howlett, born 10th Dec., 1726, died 27th Dec., 1745 at Cape Breton.

Davis Howlett, born 13 Oct., 1737 was a cordwainer in Topsfield 1794. The name then disappeared entirely from town. Over a hundred years they lived and labored in Topsfield and now what is left? A few scanty records, two deserted homesteads marked now only by the cellars, and a solitary grave. "As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field so he flourisheth; for the wind passeth over it and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more."

If we have hope only in this life we are indeed "most miserable."

But time waits for no man. One goes and another comes to fill his place.

Thomas Howlett gave a deed of his brother, John Howlett's farm in 1746 to Andrew Burley. Of him I have little knowledge, excepting that his wife was the widow Hannah Burnham, and during the nine years that he lived here a daughter Hannah

and four boys, John, William, James, and James, came upon the stage of life to taste the joys and sorrows of existence. Then he sold out to Israel Clarke, jun., in 1755.

Of the seven generations in my line of Topsfield Clarkes, five have lived upon our present farm.

The first Daniel Clarke was a very early settler in Topsfield. I find his name first mentioned in Ipswich in 1636. Feb. 27th, 1648 is the date of the following, recorded in the same town, "Whereas Daniel Clarke had a house lot as did appear by the testimony at this meeting granted to him, as also six acres of meadow at the New Meadowes as appears by a record; there was granted unto the said Daniell fifteen acres of upland near to Mr. Saltoustalls farme in full satisfaction of the two former grants above exprest." But he did not obtain possession of this land either, and so received another grant 18 Oct., 1650. "Goodman Daniell Clarke having had a former grant of fifteen acres in satisfaction of a former grant of a house lot and six acres of meddow, which is not laid out to him it is now voted that Sargeant Clarke with the lot layers shall make him satisfaction out of the common land beyond Mr. Winthrop's farm, near to the New Meddowes." Whether he succeeded in getting this land laid out to him, or went on receiving satisfaction for former grants to the end of his days, I am unable to determine. I cannot locate his home although I have frequently found his name in old deeds and records. That he owned land somewhere in our present vicinity, at one time, seems probable from the fact

that one of the six "particulars," copied into the Topsfield records from Ipswich, states the following: "Granted and sold unto Ensign Howlett a little stripe of land lying between him and Daniell Clarke." I have evidence also from other sources that about this time he held real estate in what is now Springville. I find his name given as a commoner in 1661 and 1664, nevertheless "Daniell Clarke Coming into ye Towne meeting the 6th of March 1682-3 and saing that he had noe wright in ye Coming."

"The Towne has Voated Goodman Clarke a Comminer. Voated."

The 25th April 1669 "The court grants license unto Daniel Clarke at Topsfield to keep an ordinary for selling beer and victuals for a year." This license was renewed May 1674, March 1675, Sept. 1680 and Sept. 1681. While keeping this "ordinary," he was fined "ten shillings and costs for selling a gill of liquor to the Indians." "Lo, the poor Indian!" One wonders how many of them it took to drink that gill and what effect it had upon them.

I learn from an old court record that Daniel Clarke married Mary Newbury, daughter of Mr. Thomas Newbury. Their children were Mary, Elizabeth, Dority, Sarah, Martha, Daniell born 26 Oct. 1657. died 17 Jan. 1560, Judith, John, Daniell, Samuel and Humphrey. Elizabeth married William Perkins in 1669, a son I think of Mr. William Perkins, the minister. Sarah married Samuel Howlett Jan. 3, 1670. In Daniel Clarke's will dated Jan. 10, 1688, probated March 25, 1690, he gives his son Samuel, who is in Eng-

land, ten shillings, and his property is equally divided between his three sons, John, Humphrey and Daniel.

"Item. I give to my son John Clarke my mare that is in the woods or wheresoever she be, and if she be found her first colt that she bring I give to my grandchild John Howlett." Rather an uncertain legacy.

I stated that Daniel Clarke had a son Daniel who died in 1660. The name Daniel was again bestowed on another child who was born 1665. I have found many instances of this among the old families. If a child died, the same name was soon after given to another. It seems to me like a denial of immortality, like saying, "You are *dead*, gone from us forever, utterly destroyed, your place shall be filled and your name given to another." Yet perhaps I do our fathers injustice. It may be that there were so many names to be given and John, Thomas, Sarah and Dority followed in such quick succession that time and names both ran a little short.

Humphrey Clarke sold out his property in Topsfield "to my loving brother Daniel Clarke—all my right and interest in Topsfield township, the same towne as aforesaid of house, housing, buildings, lands, meadow and upland, improved or otherwise with all fencing of all sorts with all the timber, wood, trees, streams of water or mines rocks or whatsoever doth properly belong to housing, lands as aforesaid with all privileges, appurtenances belonging hereunto as was given me by my honored father Clarke now deceased." Anyone would think that he owned the whole town of Topsfield, but he parts with

all this "for and in consideration of cloth for a suit and forty pounds in silver." This deed is dated Dec. 12, 1693.

In 1706 I find a deed from John Gould to Daniel Clarke, painter, later a deed from Zaccheus Perkins to Daniel Clarke, carpenter, and in 1725 he is called Mr. Daniel Clarke, inn-holder. I am unable to locate his land with any definiteness. I only know that it bordered Mr. Capen's. In 1735 I find the following record : "To see what the town will do about repairing the stone wall between Mr. Daniel Clarke's land and the parsonage."

Daniel Clarke was throughout his life a servant of the town in various capacities. Besides other services he was frequently appointed attorney for Topsfield. "1712." "Elisha Perkins, Daniel Clarke and John Hovey are chosen agents or attorneys to joyne with our representatives in behalf of the towne to manage our townes petition now in the general court for a rehearsing of the case between Boxford and Topsfield."

Daniel Clarke married Damaris Dorman May 29, 1689. Their children were Mary, born Aug. 16, 1694 died Aug. 22, Daniel, Jacob, Damaris, Mary, Israel, Humphrey, Sarah, Dan and David. It appears by his will that he had a second wife Hannah, but I can find no record of the marriage. This will was made the seventh day of June, 1646, probated Feb. 18, 1748, making him 81 years of age at the time this instrument was drawn up. It seems to me a curious old document. I quote some passages from it.

"Item: I give to my well beloved

wife Hannah—the liberty of ye parlour in my now Dwelling house and ye Bed Room in it, with the Bed which is in sd Bed Room with ye bedstead & bed cord and under bed and two coverlids, two blankettts & three pair of sheets and one Bolfster and two pillows & pillow cases with the curtains and curtain rods Belonging to s'd Bed ; and I give to my s'd wife the Liberty of the Wine Cellar and liberty to pass to and from it at all times, and I give to her the Liberty of ye Little Oven to bake in as shee may have occasion, and I give to my s'd wife the use of a brass Kettle, a brass Skillett & a brass Scimmer and I give the use of a pair of andirons & a fire Slice & tongs & a frying pan and warming pan & an iron pott and Trammels and Grid Iron & Chafin Dish and an Ovel table & candlestick and I give her ye use of a Tankard, two pewter platters and six pewter plates and six knives & forks and six chairs and a pair of hand bellows. But if my s'd wife shall choose to live in ye house which my son Dann now dwells in Rather than ye aforesaid Parlour that then shee shall have ye liberty of that whole house and Cellar that is under it, with ye Garden that is before it and so to quitt her Right and privilege in my now Dwelling house. I give to my sd wife ye liberty of my House, Cellar, Garden, & ye use of my household goods as above mentioned so long as Shee continues my Widow and No Longer: I give to my sd wife six cords of wood yearly to be cutt fitt for ye fire and Brought to ye Door, and I give to my sd wife Six Bushells of Indian Corn, one Bushell of wheat,

one bushell of Rye, two bushells of able to ascertain.

malt and half a bushell of salt and ten pounds of good flax from ye Swingle and one hundred pounds of good pork and seventy pounds of Beef and two barrels of cyder and barrels to put it In, and three bushells of winter apples & one bushell of Turnips ; the whole of these Several Species above given to my sd wife for her Support Is to be delivered to her every year, In ye proper Season therefor, so long as shee remains my widow, and I give to my sd wife so much money or Bills of Creditt as to be equal to forty shillings old Tenor, to be Delivered to her every year during her sd widowhood, and the milk of one cow and Liberty to take as many Summer apples as shee shall have Occasion of for her own eating during her sd widowhood. But if my sd wife shall inaist upon her having her thirds of my estate Then she is not to have privilege above given her. The several particulars above sd that my wife is to have the use & liberty of During her sd widowhood Is all of it to fall to my Exet herein after named (as his other Estate) at my wife's Decease or marriage "

He also gives legacies to his daughter Mary Dorman and to his "grandchildren the children of my daughter Sarah Bradstreet Dec'd." Her husband was Samuel Bradstreet, the son of John Bradstreet, the fourth son of the Governor.

His executor was his son Dann Clarke, who, I think, continued the inn after his father's death, and also his son Daniel after him.

How long his widow continued her "said widowhood" I have not been

To his son Israel Clarke he gives a piece of land called Barzillah's land, containing about twelve acres and taking its name presumably from Barzillah Baker, to whom it formerly belonged. This may have been his home but I do not know that it was, nor where the land was located.

We have an old account book in our possession belonging to Israel Clarke. He seems to have sold groceries ; I cannot say he had a store for I hardly think anything worthy of the name of store existed at that time. The dates run from 1738 to 1747 or thereabouts. Here I find many names of the old settlers. "Mr. William Redington, Jan. 31, oyle, two quarts." "Aprell, 1748, Thomas Baker, Molasses, 5 quarts." "March 12, 1744, Jabez Towne oyle 2 quarts." John Pichard, Nathaniel Capen, David Balch, Abraham Hobbs and many others are also mentioned. Occasionally he writes down a little family history, records the births and deaths of some of his children, or intersperses a few reflections. Then he goes right on with the molasses and the "oyle." I find this note at the bottom of a page, "Israell Clarke and his wife Desires the prayers of Gods peopel in this Congregation for there Daughter BarthSheba." And again "December 10th 1740, then ye Reverend Mr John Emerson Came to Dwell Down by the Meeting house and it was a very Rainy Time and had bin for Sum Time before." Of another character, "Robert Perkins has made forty five Barrels of Cyder." And back a little farther, "The widow Dodge, one tun." Nothing more;

we don't know what kind of a "tun" whether bought, sold or otherwise. Might have been molasses, only I doubt if there was as much in the whole settlement; or coal, but they didn't burn coal in those days. Never mind what it was, I am glad that the widow Dodge in her lonely and desolate condition could solace herself with "one tun." These entries also struck me as curious: "May 20th 1743. Received of Dan Clarke by the hand of his son Daniel eight black birds not fledged and cut off their Beeks." "July 14, 1743. Received of hennery Lamson 10 Ground Squirrels and cut off there Ears." I verily thought at first that my great-great-grandfather was akin to Jesse Pomroy, a monster of cruelty. Some one innocently inquired "Why didn't he kill them?" But upon second thought I do not believe my worthy ancestor was guilty of the horrible crime of turning poor little squirrels and blackbirds loose on an unfriendly world minus their ears and beaks. There was probably a bounty offered upon them by some one and the ears and beaks were sent away as tokens of their untimely deaths.

Israel Clarke married Mercy Porter for first wife, for second wife the widow Swett, maiden name, Anna Jewett. Mercy Porter's children were Israel, Mercy, Jacob, David, Elijah, Sarah born Nov. 14, 1736, died Feb. 7, 1737. "Jan. 31, 1738. Then Sarah Clarke Daughter to Israel and Mercy Clarke was Born." She was followed by Samuel and Bathsheba.

"May 19, 1746. Then Israel went to his unkel porters to live."

In 1755 Israel Clarke, jun., then a

young man of twenty-three, bought our present farm of Andrew Burley, and with his father's family came here to live. That family consisted, as far as I am able to ascertain, of his stepmother, Anna Jewett, his sister, Mercy, and his brothers Jacob and David. Mercy married Joseph Roberts of Hamilton. Of Jacob, "who was born partially blind," as stated in the old family bible, I can find no further record. David lived here until he was twenty-one, and at that time or later removed to Bridgton where he is said to have amassed quite a fortune for those times.

My great-grandfather's stepmother had a daughter Ruth Swett. Whether she came here to live at that time with the family, I cannot say. It is certain that she did afterwards, for again in the old Bible it is recorded, "Israel Clarke jun. married Ruth Swett the daughter of his father's second wife;" which must have been a very convenient and satisfactory family arrangement. Of her mother's residence here we still have reminders in the shape of many old papers and account books, dating back as far as 1664, all in the same handwriting and belonging to the same person, Abraham Jewett, Rowley. He was evidently a shoemaker and cobbler, and very fond of scribbling and keeping accounts. It seems a little singular that these old books should have been so carefully preserved for such a long time.

Andrew Burley gave Israel Clarke jun., a long and carefully written deed of the farm. To this deed "we do set our hands and Seals this Seventh Day of July, 1755, in the twentinth year of his Majesties

Reign." During his ownership he him blessed.

had increased the land from twenty-four to "Seventy and Three Acres be it more or be it less" including "a certain number of Lotts in Pains'-hill pasture so called also in sd Ipswich, being the whole of the second range of Lotts in sd Pasture, are in No. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 C. B.," and not including several outlying pieces of meadow and marsh.

Here were born Israel Clarke's family, consisting of Israel, Mercy, who was born April 13th, 1767 and died Sept. 23d, 1773, Anna, Sarah, Samuel, Humphrey, born July 25, 1780 and died May 30, 1782, and Humphrey born Jan. 7, 1783, and here died Anna Clarke, March 25, 1786, Israel Clarke, Nov. 24, 1789 at the ripe old age of 88 years, and eight months after Israel Clarke jun., July 26th, 1790.

To my great grandfather, Israel Clarke, we owe the row of willows by the brook side. My grandfather, who was but seven years of age when his father died, saw him set these trees out, making them some where from five to seven years over a hundred years of age. The hand that planted them has long since crumbled into dust, but the trees are more enduring than a monument of marble; for although the old trees are breaking down, new ones will spring from the roots and they will thus be continued indefinitely. Every year the first sign of the coming spring is seen in their growing greenness; they have been transferred to canvas, and at blossoming time, when the air is laden with fragrance, we do not doubt that others beside his descendants have reason to call

So Ruth Clarke was left a widow with several small children still below the age of majority. In this condition of affairs David Clarke of Bridgeton desires to relieve her somewhat of her burdens by adopting my grandfather, Humphrey. Whether he was the best looking or not I cannot say. I did not know him till he was old, yet I think it possible that he may have been. We still have several old letters written upon this subject by David Clarke of Bridge-ton to my great grandmother Ruth Clarke. To illustrate the difficulty of travelling in those days I will quote a few lines from one of them, written Jan. 12, 1795. "I send you this letter by Mr. David Potter, he will return to Bridgeton in a Short time With two Sleighs; and if you have a mind Humphrey Should Com and Live with me, mr potter will Bring him Down if he is not too havy loaded and I make no doubt he will take Good Care of him on the Roads and I Do not think that you will have a Better opportunity to Send him to me." Evidently there was no discussion about electric roads. I will just say here that "Humphrey" did go to Bridgeton and remained with his uncle two years; after which time he again returned to Topsfield.

Here, after he attained his majority he bought out the rights of his brothers and sisters and came into possession of his father's farm. He married Mercy Clinton Jan. 26, 1809. At or near this time the second house on the farm was erected by my great-uncle, Israel Clarke, and completed by my grandfather. It was a one story

house with a long, slanting roof at the back, the kitchen facing the north and with a bedroom at one end and a pantry at the other taking up the entire side of the house. Those old fashioned kitchens are rapidly disappearing. They were so made as to exclude the rays of the sun; only in the latter part of the afternoon, I remember, it would peep round the elm tree and throw a flickering light across my grandfather's table. They were cold rooms, perhaps meant to be so, in order that Puritan housekeepers might not take too much pleasure in living. Ours was not so bad owing to its sheltered situation, but in some other houses, with which I am familiar, built on higher land, the cold was something not easily forgotten. If the explorers for the North pole are simply seeking the coldest place on earth, they might give over their searching and contentedly sit down in an old fashioned New England kitchen.

In this house my grandfather's two sons, Humphrey and David, were born; here Humphrey died at the age of five years, my grandmother, Mercy Clinton, Jan. 2nd 1855; and afterwards my grandfather. Yet I cannot say that he died in the house. At eighty-five years of age, hale and vigorous, in full possession of his faculties, he fell dead in the cornfield holding in his hand the ripening blades of corn. No sound, no murmur, no groan to indicate to those working close by him, but concealed by the rustling corn, that a soul was passing,—a fitting close to an energetic, hard working life. In the prayer of the English church occurs this petition, "And deliver us from

sudden death." Rather, let me say, deliver me from the slow torture, the lingering agony of long continued sickness.

My grandfather left us an enduring legacy in the noble elm which shades the western side of the house. My father saw him sow the seed of this tree when he was ten years of age, making it now seventy-two years old. I measured it a short time ago and found it eighteen feet in circumference. I could hardly realize, as I measured its rugged sides, that seventy-two years ago it was only a tiny seed.

"And sun and showers nourished it  
And gave the elm tree birth."

At that age man begins to fail and grow feeble and gray. Not so the grand, old tree. The years thus far only bring to it added beauty and vigor. The trunk grows larger, the branches shoot higher and far up above the world below the oriole and vireo fasten their nests to its swaying twigs.

David Clarke married Mary Peabody, Dec. 3d, 1840. In this same house his four children were born and here the oldest child, Mercea Clinton, died at the age of three years.

Our present house was built by my father in 1871. Here my brother, Humphrey H. Clarke, died Feb. 17, 1874, and my father, David Clarke, March 13, 1880.

In looking over our family history I have been struck by the continual recurrence of the same name. In every family but one there was an Humphrey Clarke, and as the next family had two the omission was atoned for. I have really felt a

curiosity to know where and when the first Humphrey Clarke came into existence, and why his descendants should cling to his name so pertinaciously. In our family we ought to be able to say, "The quality of mercy is not strained" for we have been blessed with many Mercys'.

My great grandfather Clinton, the father of Mercy Clinton, my grandmother, left an account book very similar to that previously quoted from, belonging to Israel Clarke, except that there are in it more reflections and jotting down of events. I will give a few, which may be interesting on account of their age.

"July 30, 1794. A fire in Boston, burnt fifty dwelling houses, seven ropewalks, stores etc., loss estimated at one hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling. The same day three pirates were executed on the common.

Sept. 18. The bell was hung in the meeting house. Betsey's brown house moved. Henry Tufts pardoned from the sentence of death by the governor and put on the castle during life.

Christmas day was the pleasantest day I ever saw. no snow. no ice. no frost.

Jan. 29, 1795. John Potter's barn blew down, killed four head of cattle, a very heavy gale of wind.

Jan. 19 & 20, 1810. Coldest ever known in New England.

July 27, 1804. Eben Clinton left home to sail in the Vainlove for northwest coast, Tom Brown master, Simon of Boston owner, bound to northwest coast and the voyage to be about three years and God be pleased to bless him."

From the nature of my subject my paper has borne a close resemblance to some of those chapters in Chronicles which go on this way: "And Shallum begat Hilkiah and Hilkiah begat Ajarah," but we are all lovers of the supernatural. Let me close with a ghost story, the only one I know which is connected with this place, and certainly the most authentic which ever came to my knowledge.

My grandmother, Mercy Clinton, had a younger brother by the name of David Clinton. In his visits to his sister he became acquainted with, and interested in, Mercy Perkins, a daughter of Elisha Perkins who then lived upon the hill in the house now occupied by the family of the late David Perkins. Being somewhat out of health he went to Boston to see a physician. A letter had just been received from him stating that he was doing as well as could be expected.

At that time, my grandmother's niece, Edna Dane of Brookfield, was visiting her. Mercy Perkins came over to make a neighboring call. When she took her leave, Edna walked home with her as far as the bridge. After they separated she heard a scream from Mercy and turned to go back to her, but seeing her keeping on her way home apparently all right, she went on again.

The next day Mercy came over in tears and after saying, "We shall certainly hear from David today," related the following story. After leaving Edna she looked around and saw David Clinton standing behind her. Thinking he had returned unexpectedly she put out her hand to

shake hands with him, when he vanished. She then uttered the scream heard by Edna. Hurrying on over the bridge she looked round again and David again stood behind her and then once more vanished. That very day a letter was received stating that David Clinton had died very suddenly and unexpectedly.

Mrs. George Dane of Hamilton, recently deceased.

the daughter of the Edna Dane, afterwards Edna Waite, mentioned above, told me this story and closed with these words: "My mother to her dying day believed that Mercy Perkins saw a ghost."

I will add that Mercy Perkins afterward married an Andrews and was the mother of Joseph Andrews,



## The Topsfield Copper Mines.

By MRS. G. WARREN TOWNE.

"Mr. Endecott hath found a copper mine in his own ground. Mr. Leader hath tried it." So writes John Winthrop to his son, on the 30th Sept., 1648. Such a find was of much importance to the infant colony and Mr. Endicott at once petitioned the General Court to lay out, and establish the bounds, of the five hundred and fifty acres granted him in 1639, and on which he had made so valuable a discovery. The Court acted upon his request in October of the same year, and appointed Lieut. Walker and Seargt. Marshall, both of Reading, to perform this duty, which for some unknown reason they neglected to do, for nearly ten years afterwards in 1657, the Court, on petition from the Government, appointed Mr. Thos. Danforth and Robert Hale "to lay out the former grant of land on the Ipswich river made to the honored Governor Jno. Endicott Esq.," that he shall not "suffer damage that it hath not binn layd out formerly."

The return made to the Court reads as follows:

1659. 25th May.

"Layd out vnto the honored Governor John Endecott Esq. five hundred and fifty acres of land on Ipswich River and is bounded wth a brook anent Goodman Goold's land on the east, Blind Hole on south, and the wilderness elsewhere surrounding, the said farme taking into

the bounds thereoff the swampy meadow land that lieth on the south side of the river."

Tho. Danforth,  
Robert Hale.

One would naturally think that the location of the Governor's farme on the Ipswich River was at last settled, but there are four or five other orders of the Court in regard to it. There seems to have been much trouble about the bounds between the land of Zaccheus Goold and "ye honored Governor" and as neither were of yielding dispositions, it required much time and patience to come to a satisfactory settlement even with the help of the General Court. But the Governor finally settled his five hundred and fifty acres on the Ipswich river and we are ready to consider the copper mine.

Governor Endicott's attempt at mining copper is the earliest record we have of the mining of this metal in North America by Europeans.

The natives of the soil, the Indians, had made use of copper for personal adornment, long years before the advent of the white man; but the eastern tribes probably obtained it in barter from the tribes living near "the great lake" where copper could be found nearly pure in its crude state.

In the accounts of Gosnold's voyage to America, made in 1602, the

fact that the Indians of Massachusetts had copper in their possession is mentioned.

One John Brereton, who accompanied Gosnold, wrote as follows regarding the natives of southern Massachusetts:

"They have also great store of copper, some very red and some of a paler color; none of them but have chains, ear rings, or collars of this metal. They head some of their arrows therewith. Their chains are made of hollow pieces of the bigness of one of our reeds, a finger in length ten or twelve of them together on a string which they wear about their bodies like handeliers a handful broad, all hollow pieces like the other but somewhat shorter, four hundred pieces in a collar, very fine and evenly set together; besides these they have large drinking cups made like skulls, and other thin plates of copper. I was desirous to understand where they had such store of this metal and made sign to one of them who taking a piece of copper in his hand made a hole with his finger in the ground and withall pointed to the main from whence they came."

But it was in Topsfield that the first attempt was made by English colonists to mine the ore.

Charles M. Endecott, in his memories of Gov. Endecott, mentions the copper mine in Topsfield and speaks of it as being upon his land on the Ipswich river near a place called at the time Blind Hole. He says it was tested by Mr. Leader of the Lynn iron works, who must have given a favorable opinion, for in 1651 Mr. Endecott petitions the

General Court for the grant of a wood lot in its neighborhood to enable him to work it with more ease. In this petition he states that he had already been to some charges for the finding and melting of copper ore, and was still in prosecution of bringing it to perfection by sending to Sweden and Germany for persons well skilled in the art to assist him.

Following is the grant made 14 Oct. 1651:

"In answer to the petition of John Endecott, Esquire, ye present honored Governor the court doth grant him three hundred acres of wood land lying neere to the place he intends to sett up his works, named Blind Hole, neere to a farme formerly granted him not being granted to any other, on this condition, that he sets up his workes within seven years."

Mr. William P. Upham writes me that he does not think the three hundred acres of woodland were ever laid out. He says, "John Porter seems to have owned the land on the south of the 550 acre Endecott grant where the three hundred acres in Blind Hole would have been set off to Endecott if he had complied with the condition as to the copper mine." Mr. Upham thinks as the three hundred acres of woodland were to be *near* the copper mine the mine must have been on that part of the 550 acres lying south of the river. There is not the shadow of a doubt in my own mind in regard to this.

C. M. Endecott closes his account of the mine by saying it was subsequently abandoned, it not yielding sufficient copper to encourage the Governor to work it longer.

Savage, in his sketch of Richard Leader, says he tried a copper mine in Endecott's farm at Salem (Topsfield) but met with ill success. All things considered I think we must conclude that Governor Endicott was not more successful than others have been at a later date.

We cannot pass by Richard Leader without giving a short sketch of the man.

A letter written by Emanuel Downing to John Winthrop, Jr., in 1644, is full of interesting information.

My Honored Cosen,

The Adventurers in the Iron Works have agreed with Mr. Leader to take care of their work, you know the man. He lived in Ireland. He is a perfect accountant, hath skill in mynes and tryall of mettalls; he bath covenanted to serve them seven 7 years his wages is 100 li. per annum he is to have passage for himself, his wife, 2 children, 3 servants. an house to be built for him, and ground to be allowed him for his horses and a few cowes. The 100 li. per annum begins the 25 of March next. When I perceived they were resolved upon him, and that yt would be noe advantage to you for me to have expressed my dislike of their way herein, I told them I was well assured Mr Leader would be a wel-comb man vnto you for at my coming thence you expressed your desire that myself or some other would undertake the business. Then Mr Leader told them he would not medle with any undertaking of their business without your free consent and contentment, for soe in private he

had promised me to express himself before them all which he preformed verie honestly. Mr Holye told me that when they were agreeing with Mr Leader they would have given him 150 li. per annum rather than left him, therefore if Mr Leader had stood upon yt he might have had the 150 li.

Your assurd loving uncle  
Em. Downinge.

London, 25 feb 1644.

That he was of a studious disposition we may infer from an extract taken from a letter written by Robert Childs to John Winthrop Jr., in 1650.

"Mr Leader hath more curious books than I, especially about Divinity business, where you may see them." We cannot repress a sensation of surprise that the books were described in just those words.

Again, and this time it is John Winthrop, Jr., himself who writes in 1646.

Sir: I am much asked for, the saddle that was left, I pray send it by the first opportunity "to be left at my father's for me. It was borrowed of Mr Leader."

In 1649 The Adventurers in England sent over one Mr. Dawes, to oversee Mr. Leader (but he was far short of Mr. Leader.) They could not agree, so Mr. Dawes was returned to Ieneriffe. We imagine that Mr. Dawes watched the infant town of Lynn sink below the horizon with a sigh of satisfaction.

In 1651, Mr. Richard Leader of the Lynn Iron works was arraigned by the court for reproaching Governor Endicott, the Court, and the Church at Lynn. In their first excitement the

Court fined him two hundred pounds, which was afterwards reduced to fifty. Mr. Leader made an acknowledgment and the fine was remitted, but after this Mr. John Gifford appears in the records as overseer of the Lynn Ironworks. Savage says that Leader went to Berwick where he had a grant of the exclusive use of the Little river to erect mills. He was a magistrate and in 1654 was a collector of Strawberry Bank. Here he disappears from the records.

There are two mine lots, so called, both owned by William Batchelder. We will consider them for convenience sake as the upper and lower mine lot. The upper lot is a field of about four acres and is situated on the left of the road leading from Sewell Towne's house to William Batchelder's and about half way between the two places. The lower lot is just beyond the first on the right, at the corner of the Boxford road, it is also bounded on the northwest by the highway leading to Middleton; this lot contains between two and three acres of pasture land.

S. S. Mackensie in an article in the Essex Institute Proceedings says "there are three different localities where shafts were sunk, one near the meadow on land now owned by David Towne and near the house of Elisha Towne." We have found no trace of this shaft and it is possible Mr. Mackensie was mistaken, as no record can be found of an Elisha Towne living in this neighborhood. Of the other two shafts mentioned we have a very connected history.

Before we proceed to the history of the lower mine, let us linger a while with the people who at differ-

ent times have owned this piece of land. The first to greet us is "Old Captain Ben," as he was called.

Benj. Towne was born in Topsfield May 10, 1691. He married four times. First, Catherine, daughter of Jacob Towne, Jr., April 1, 1713. Second, Susannah Wilds, April 12, 1722. She was the mother of nine children; March 7, 1728 she gave birth to twins Jacob and Joseph and April 30, 1736, two months before her death, she became the mother of three healthy male children all of whom lived to be middle aged men. Third, he married Mary Perkins May 2, 1738 and fourth, Mrs. Mary Clark. He acquired a large estate for the time in which he lived and from the records seems to have been a prominent man in town affairs, frequently officiating as town clerk, selectman and assessor of taxes, etc. He died Feb. 11, 1772 aged, 81.

Jacob his son, married Elizabeth Perkins and died leaving one son, Jacob who married Mary Perkins. Their son was our well known Jacob Perkins Towne, for forty years town clerk.

Joseph married twice. By his first wife, Elizabeth Rogers, his children were Deborah, who married a Brickett; Elizabeth, commonly called Betty, and Lydia. Betty and Lydia remained unmarried and lived at the old homestead on the Middleton road.

Lydia was insane and many curious and amusing incidents of her insanity are still related in the neighborhood. It is said if there was a death in town she invariably placed little stones in line like a funeral train, and many now living remember

Betty's anxious inquiry of a chance caller, "Who is dead?"

The neighbors would say, "Well Liddy, how is Betty today?" Her answer was always the same, "Betty is a good gal, she never steals!"

The story of Aunt Betty and Liddy is very pathetic. Betty was the elder by twelve years, and it is said was very plain. Liddy was a pretty girl, and many stories of her pretty dresses, her beauty and her skill and recklessness as a horsewoman still exist. We can easily imagine the love and pride of the elder and plain-er sister. At length a time came when Lydia was busy from morning till night with her wheel and needle; when the pile of snowy linen grew steadily day by day; when the silken wedding dress was ready for the wed-ding that never came off, for it was the old story of a new face and a new fancy. Lydia became hopelessly insane.

Then was the devotion of the elder sister made manifest. Not one cent of Lydia's property was ever touched. Betty's land was sold off bit by bit until next to nothing remained. All these years she never wavered but bore her burden cheerfully till she lay it down at the Master's feet. Lydia survived her sister but one short month. They lie buried side by side in the old cemetery on the hill where the winds whisper softly in the pine trees and the spring flowers grow thick and white on their graves.

The following deed will tell its own story:

We Benjamin Towne, Gentleman, Jacob and Joseph Towne yeoman, all of Topsfield in consideration of

Five shillings and for divers other good considerations from Edmund Quincy of the District of Stoughton-bam in the county of Suffolk, Gentleman, have sold Edmund Quincy all mines, mine ores, minerals and other hidden treasures of the Earth lying in land or farm or mine the said Benjamine Towne partly and partly in Land of us the said Jacob and Josep Towne which we purchased jointly of John Leach of Beverly, Esqr. bounded as follows, Viz: Southerly on the Land of Nehemiah Herrick there measuring sixty-two rods from the corner leading from Danvers Road to a white Oak Tree near the wall betwixt said Herricks Land and us the said grantors, then Northerly from said white Oak tree to a certain Spring enclosed with a stone wall there measuring about twenty rods then running still North-erly from said Spring about twenty rods more allong side with said Spring to a certain stone bridge across the road within the gate leading from Danvers to Middleton and from said Bridge on the road as it runs through the said gate from Middleton to Topsfield there measuring sixty-two rods and from thence within the Stone wall leading from the parting road toward said Herrick's house on the corner leading from said Danvers road first mentioned, there measur-ing about eighteen rods enclosing in said bounds A certain shaft or Mine Hole which is commonly known by the name of Towne's Copper Mine, also granting unto the said Edmund Quincy Right of Ingress Egress and Regress upon the land and premises and his workmen and Labourers, Pitts & Shafis, to sink Levells and

Drift ways and all other necessaries meet for working the Mines within the premises. Engine or Engines, Mill or Mills or any other Edefices and Erect on the premisses and the use and benefit of all water or wat-ercourses for the working said Mines and for cleaning the ores got within the premises and further we the said Benjamine Towne Jacob Towne and Joseph Towne do hereby agree with the said Edmund Quincy that in case he should discover any Veins of mines or mine ores, extending beyond the afore mentioned premises by us granted into any Parcel of Land to us belonging at this date that the said Edmund Quincy shall hold and enjoy the same on demand provided the said Demand is made within the term of one year from the discovery of such vein of mine ore and paying unto the said Benj. Ja-cob & Joseph Towne, one full six-teenth part of all such mines, mine ores, minerals and other Hidden Treasures of the Earth that shall be found and dug up in our land or got up by any ways or means whatsoever. Provided Neverless that whereas the said Edmund Quincy has commenced to work on the premifes at the date of these presents and shall cease working on the same by the space of Twenty-one years next ensueing this Instrument at the expiration of said twenty-one years shall be null and void.

Dated June 1, 1771, signed by  
 Witnessed by                   Benjaim Towne  
 Bimsley Peahody              Jacob Towne  
 Elijah Porter                 Joseph Towne  
  
 Mary Towne                   Elizabeth Towne  
 Elizabeth Towne

In the Essex Register, Oct. 1-8, 1771, is this item:

"We hear from Topsfield that the Copper Mine, sometime since opened there at 12 or 15 feet depth, affords such samples of fine lively ore, ex-tending in spattering all over the pit that experienced miners have de-clared the appearance preferable to any yet discovered in America."

In Captain Benjamin's will there is no mention of the Copper Mine, and as he died in Feb. 1772, the mine could have been worked but a short time.

After the death of their father, Jacob and Joseph owned the mine lot together till Joseph died in 1789, when his share fell to his daughter Lydia. She was not of age and her Uncle Jacob was appointed her guardian. It is said that he gave his share of the lot to her. Of this gift there is no record, but in 1839 Lydia was in full possession. After her death it passed through the hands of John C. Balch, Lorenzo P. Towne and William Rea to its present owner.

The first mention of the upper mine lot found in the records is a deed given by Samuel Cummings dated Feb. 7, 1772.

I, Samuel Cummings of Topsfield in the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England, yeoman, and by the consent of Eunice my wife, in consideration of the sum of Fifty three pounds, six shillings and eight pence, paid me by Elijah Porter of Topsfield yeomen, do sell and con-vey to Elijah Porter a certain lot of land situate in Topsfield containing four acres, bounded, beginning at a corner in the fence by the highway and land of Joseph and Jacob Towne

from thence South easterly by land of the said Jacob and Joseph Towne to land of Enos Knight, thence North easterly by land of the said Enos Knight till it comes within two rods of a lott of land that was given Samuel Cummings by his father David Cummings, late of Topsfield, thence running North westerly within two rods of the fence that now stands between the land of said Samuel Cummings and land of Benjamin Bixby till it come to said highway, thence South westerly by said highway to the bounds first mentioned. This land was undoubtedly a part of the two hundred acre Porter grant.

At the death of Elijah Porter the land fell to the his son Thomas who sold the lot to Nehemiah Herrick for forty pounds, Nov. 3, 1784. The Herrick family lived here until 1791 when, Sept. 24. they sold their farm to Susannah Hawthorn of Salem for three hundred pounds. It is said by their descendants that the family moved away because they considered the vicinity of the copper mine unhealthy, and attributed to this source a number of sudden deaths that had occurred in the family. Susannah Hawthorn sold to Thomas Emerson April 1, 1792 for three hundred and thirty pounds. Mr. Emerson sold to Thomas Tenney of Rowley, May 20, 1795, for four hundred and sixty pounds. Mr. Tenny was discontented and sold to Nathaniel Porter of Middleton and at his death it was bought by Ezra Batchelder, the father of the present owner.

The following is the only official document relating to this mine on record.

I Elijah Porter of Topsfield yeo-

man In consideration of Five shillings Lawful money of the Province paid me by William Buntin of Worksworth in Darbyshare in Great Britton, Miner and for Divers other good considerations from the said William Buntin by me received, have bargained and sold unto the sd William Buntin one eighth part of all and Singular mines, mine ore, minerals and other Hidden Treasures of the Earth, lying in a certain Lot of land I bought of Samuel Cummings situated in Topsfield, the bounds being the same as in his deed, containing Four acres. Also granting unto William Buntin privilege of Engress, Egress and Regress, in and upon the sd Land, and to his workmen and laborers, pits and shafts, to sink Drift ways, to Drive make and bring up and all other Necessary and Conviants. As to him and them shall seem meet, for Securing and working the mines, within the premisses above granted. Engine or Engines, mill or mills or any other Edifice to build and erect on the premises paying unto me Elijah Porter clear of all charges one full sixteenth part of all such mines, mine ores, minerals and other Hidden Treasures of the Earth as shall be found and dug up in the Lot of Land aforesaid, or got up by any other way or means whatever, and I the said Elijah Porter do bind myself my heirs etc. that I will warrant and defend the afore granted premisses against the lawful claims of all Persons, Excepting against the demands of our Sovereign Lord the King his heirs and successors. This is dated Topsfield 6 March, 1772.

According to tradition Buntin loaded a vessel with the ore and went with it to England. He was taken sick and died either before or shortly after he landed and no one knows what became of the ore. The mine was abandoned and in course of time nearly forgotten. One of the stories current in the neighborhood relates that a foreigner once undertook to dig gold or money there, and that he suddenly disappeared, and was supposed to have been swallowed up in the earth. This was believed by a few timid and superstitious ones of a later generation; some even had a dread of going through the mine lot by night as it was reported that a grim, unearthly looking figure, armed with a huge branch of a lightning scathed oak, had been seen walking guard by the forsaken mine.

It is also related that one of Buntin's descendants, finding the old agreement concerning the ore among his ancestor's papers, and thinking there might be wealth in store, came to Massachusetts.

He visited the registry of deeds at Salem and found that the mine at Topsfield was the one mentioned in the contract. It is thought that the young Englishman did not find the prospect promising enough to attempt to work the mine. His coming, however, aroused old memories, and was probably the cause of the mine being reopened in 1839. One reason for belief in this supposition is that Ralph H. French, then registrar of deeds, (who must have known of the young man's errand) was one of the company formed.

The papers of the time say that

the upper mine was opened first. It was found to be a well shaped shaft just through the surface earth, not penetrating the bed rock. At the bottom was a chamber of considerable extent in which were found some tools and the remains of a keg or tub left there by the workmen nearly seventy years before. The current story is that the mine had caved in during one night, in '72, and everything had remained as it was when the workmen left work at night. But the mine never caved in and probably the only reason why the tools had not been removed was the accumulated debris and the water with which the mine was filled except in very dry seasons.

The upper mine not yielding very abundantly, the shaft in the lower lot was opened to a depth of about one hundred feet. In this shaft also the water was very troublesome, and an attempt was made to drain it by running a tunnel to the low ground near by, but this proved impossible and the mine was abandoned a third time, a case where the old saying "A third time never fails," proved false.

The company had Dr. Jackson of Boston down to test the ore but his verdict was unfavorable. There is a tradition that only enough copper was removed to make a head to a cane for one of the directors. Prof. John Sears of the Peabody Academy of Science has kindly allowed me to insert the following list of "minerals, mine ores, and other hidden treasures of the earth" found at the old mine:

Carbonate of Copper, Malachite, in part; Chalcopyrite, Copper Pyrite, Iron Pyrite, Magnitite, Limonite,

Dyke of Melephyre; the stratified beds of Slate Limestone and Quartzite that the Melephyre Dyke cut, are of lower carboniferous age.

The official evidence in regard to this period of activity is very meagre, only two papers having been found, (both unrecorded) but they establish the identity of this mine with that of seventy-one and also show who the official agents of the company were.

Only one requires to be copied here which is as follows: "A copy of a paper concerning the Mine signed by David Towne and others."

The first part of this paper is a copy of the deed given by Captain Benjamin and his sons. Then follows: "We the subscribers now owning the lands adjacent to the first mentioned piece so sold by said Benjamin, Jacob and Joseph to

said Quincy, do hereby sell and convey to Ralph H. French and David Pulsifer 3d, both of Salem in said county of Essex, the right and privilege of extending diggings and searchings, etc., into our land adjoining said piece as aforesaid upon the same terms and conditions as are set forth in said deed, from said Benjamin Jacob and Joseph Towne to said Quincy.

Dated—1838

Signed  
Elizabeth Towne  
Moses Pettingill  
Nathaniel Porter  
David Towne

The missing link in this sketch is the paper that proves the mine sold by Capt. Benjamin Towne was the one opened and abandoned by Gov. Endicott. This link we are quite sure time and patience will finally unearth.



## FUNERAL ELEGY.

The following funeral elegy was written by Rev. Joseph Capen who was settled over the church in Topsfield on June 11, 1684.

It was printed and also circulated in manuscript form. The following reprint is made from an original copy in the possession of Mr. Thompson Baxter of South Boston, whose grandmother was a Foster.

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### A Funeral Elegy

Upon the much to be Lamented Death and most  
Deplorable Expiration of the Pious, Learned, Ingenious,  
and Eminently Usefull Servant of God

Mr John Foster

Who Expired and Breathed out his Soul quietly  
into the arms of his Blessed REDEEMER  
at Dorchester, Sept. 9th Anno Dom. 1681

Ætatis Anno 33

Here lye the relict Fragments, which were Took  
Out of Consumtion's teeth, by Death the Cook  
Voracious Apetite dosta thus devour  
Scarce ought hast left for worms t' live on an Hour  
But Skin & Bones no bones thou mak'st of that  
It is thy common trade t' eat all the fat.  
Here lyes that earthly House, where once did dwell  
That Soul that Scarce [ha]th left its Parallel  
For Sollid Judgment Piety & Parts  
And peerless skill in all the practick Arts  
Which as the glittering Spheres, it passed by  
Methinks, I Saw it Glance at Mercury;  
Ascended now: 'bov Time & Tides t' bides,  
Which Sometimes told the world, of Times & Tides.  
Next to th' Third Heavens the Stars were his delight,  
Where's Contemplation dwelt both day & night,  
Soaring unceartainly but now at Shoar,  
Whether Sol moves or Stands He doubts no more.  
He that despis'd the things the world admired,  
As having Skill in rarer things acquired,  
The heav'ns Interpreter doth disappear;

The Starre's translated to his proper Sphere.  
 What e're the world may think did Cause his death  
 Consumption 'twas not Cupid, Stopt his breath.  
 The Heav'ns which God's glory doe discover,  
 Have lost their constant Friend & instant Lover  
 Like Atlas, he help't bear up that rare Art  
 Astronomy ; & always took his part :  
 Most happy Soul who didst not there Sit down  
 But didst make after an eternal Crown  
 Sage Archimede ! Second Bezaleell  
 Oh how didst thou in Curious works excell !  
 Thine Art & Skill deserve to See the Press,  
 And be Composed in a Printers dress.  
 Thy Name is worthy for to be enroll'd  
 In Printed Letters of the choicest Gold  
 Thy Death to five foretold Eclipses Sad,  
 A great one, unforetold doth Superad,  
 Successive to that Strange Æthereal Blaze,  
 Whereon thou didst so oft astonish'd, gaze ;  
 Which daily gives the world such fatal blows :  
 Still whata to come we dread ; God only knows.  
 Thy Body which no activeness did lack  
 Now's laid aside like an old Almanack  
 But for the present only's out of date ;  
 Twil have at length a far more active state.  
 Yea, though with dust thy body Soiled be,  
 Yet at the Resurrection we Shall See  
 A fair Edition & of matchless worth,  
 Free from Errata, new in Heav'n set forth :  
 Tis but a word from God the great Creatour,  
 It Shall be Done when he saith IMPRIMATUR.

Semoestus cecinit  
Joseph Capen.



## The Cradle of the Averill Family.

By S. GERTRUDE BRADSTREET.

As we stand here today and glance over the deserted prospect, over pasture and woodland, imagination is hardly strong enough to picture this locality as the one-time centre of a thriving, prosperous community; and were it not for the unmistakable evidences of habitation which confront us, we could easily believe that the spot still keeps its "forest prim-eval", a place sacred to nature and to God. "The murmuring pines and hemlocks" still crown the hills, where the woodman's axe, now a frequent sound, might for the first time fell the giants of the forest to the ground. But a little research proves that this seeming primitiveness is false, and that at a comparatively short period ago the same sun which shines above us today o'erlooked a very different scene. Here, by common consent, we must agree that the first dwellers of our village made their early abode. This evidently was the centre of the settlement, for here lived and worked those who plied the trades of carpenter and wheelwright, those men who were conspicuous in town affairs, and those whose broader education placed them in a slightly higher rank than the others, giving to the locality the name of "The Colleges", a title which has descended through the years to our own time. I remember that in my childhood days I gave it its literal interpretation, and gazed with awe and wonder into the particular cellar which I had selected as

the foundation of the college, a cellar whose firm, strong wall marked the location of no unpretentious dwelling place. A short distance from here, near the highway over which we have just come, may be seen a cellar which marks the site of the home of William Averill, a carpenter by trade, the first of the name to come to Topsfield. Here he dwelt with his wife and eleven children, whose names I find to be William, John, Nathaniel, Job, Ebenezer, Thomas, Paul, Isaack, Hannah, Abigail and Mary, nearly all of whom are represented in our town today by their descendants.

I have not been able to ascertain when said William first came to Topsfield but think it must have been in the vicinity of 1662, for from that time until 1689 he was prominent in town affairs and held many town offices. I also find the names of his sons John, Nathaniel, Job and Ebenezer in the early records of our town from 1692 to 1727, having filled the offices of selectman, constable, surveyor, fence viewer, juryman and tithingman and also that of school master.

In March ye 1st, 1714, the selectmen agreed with William Averill jun., "to sweep ye meeting house and to be paid 18 shillings a year for his pains," and he was to have the meeting house key delivered to him. They also granted unto said William "half an acre of land somewhere where ye committee shall be ordered

to lay it out for him ye s'd Averill of Jacob Towne on the other. during his and his wife's life time, and s'd Wm Averill is hereby obliged to sweep ye meeting house and dig graves and to be paid for his work."

More than 200 years ago this land, a part of the original grant of Simon Bradstreet, was deeded by him to John and Nathaniel Averill, sons of William Averill. This deed given by Simon Bradstreet of Boston to John Averill, planter, and Nathaniel Averill carpenter, both of Topsfield, was dated Feb. 1st, 1692, "for and in consideration of 250 lbs. current money of New England conveyed to them 200 acres of land situate in the Township of s'd Topsfield in the present tenure and occupation of John Hawkins being betwixt two brooks there, the one commonly called and known by the name of Howlets Brook, and the other Mile Brook; also, on lot of out-land lying in the 2nd division lots on the south side of Ipswich river as laid out by the lot layers of s'd Town. The 1st Lot was in two parcels bounded as follows:—One part by the lands of Wm Howlet on the north and north-east, by the lands of Tobiah Perkins, Daniel Borman and John French on the north-west, by Mile Brook on the south and south-west, by the Hassakie meadow, so called, and the meadow of Wm Howlet on the south and south-east. The other part or parcel was bounded on the north by land of Wm Howlet and the Hassakie meadow, so called, on the west, Mile Brook on the south, till it comes to Ipswich River, and hath s'd river on the east. The Lot south of the river was bounded by the Lot of Daniel Clark on the one side and the Lot

of Jacob Towne on the other. These, together with all houses, outhousing, edifices, buildings, fences, orchard, fruit trees, lumber, underwood and stones, lying, standing or growing upon s'd lands or any part or parcel thereof, commonages, herbage, feedings, profits, privileges, hereditments and appurtances, whatsoever thereto belonging."

This would indicate that there must have been a settlement here previous even to its possession and occupation by the Averills. Dwelling places, public buildings and farms of early pioneers may have formed a colony, whose origin and existence are alike forgotten,—hidden by the misty curtain of the past. If we could but push it aside and but for a brief space look back upon the realities of those distant years, verifying what must now remain a mere supposition. The original deed is still in the possession of one of the present owners. More than 140 acres of the land given by the deed are still held by the Averills, a large part never having been out of the name.

There are in this vicinity several cellars which mark the location of the homes of different members of the Averill family. Like nearly all old houses these were built to face the south. A lovelier spot than the one around us would be hard to imagine, and could we revive the image of those early homes surrounded by the verdant foliage of more than 200 years ago, we would certainly agree that those early settlers chose their homes with regard to beauty as well as comfort.

Of the early occupants I have been able to trace but little and that very

imperfectly. The first cellar we shall come to after leaving the highway, the house of which was standing until a very recent date, was owned and occupied by Joseph and Luke Averill, brothers and sons of Isaac Averill. Afterwards the part owned by Joseph or "neighbor Joe," as he was familiarly known, was purchased by John Blaisdell, whose mother was an Averill, and that owned by Luke became the property of his son. This house was the second one built on the same cellar and was burned to the ground in the spring of 1890. The cellar located near by, in the locusts, is the best preserved of any and is known as the Daniel Averill place and here in 1769 was born Solomon Averill, the grandfather of the present owner. He afterwards lived in the house which was situated on the brow of the hill near the gateway. Here was also the workshop of the cabinet makers. Several articles of furniture manufactured by them, including a desk, light-stand bureau, and some chairs, are today in the possession of some of their descendants, also a part of a violin made here and used in the old meeting house. This industry must have been quite extensive, as I have been informed that more than thirty apprentices were employed here at one time. Opposite this was the house of Jacob Averill, who descended from Nathaniel 1st, and nearby is the ancient well, which appears to be in a good state of preservation. This house was taken down and moved to the village, where it now forms the home of Mrs. Herrick on High street. Farther on, near the brook, we come to another

cellar. This is called the Nathaniel Averill place and is also the location of the wheelwright shop. One of the first pair of wheels built there came into my grandfather's possession, having been built for chaise wheels, afterwards used by my father for cart wheels. We find the next occupant of this house to be Moses Averill, son of Nathaniel, and later it was occupied by Mehitable Averill, the wife of Silas Beckford and daughter of Daniel Averill. She moved from there to the little cottage by the mill. It seems strange that no other names are given but it must have been a colony of Averills, and among them were men useful in church and active in town affairs, school teachers, a civil engineer, and we have also heard of one skilled in verse-making and fortune-telling. Indeed in examining the wills of some of the Averill forefathers one learns that they were persons likely to hold and fill important places, men of no common rank and worth.

A little farther on we come to Mile Brook, the boundary line of the Averill tract and upon this brook was built the saw mill. The actual date of its erection I have been unable to determine, but think it must have been soon after the land came into possession of John and Nathaniel Averill. The first authentic mention of it I find in the will of Nathaniel Averill who bequeathed his "half of ye saw mill" to his three sons, Nathaniel, Jacob and Jeremiah. It was afterwards owned by Jacob, then by his son Moses, who rebuilt and worked it. Later it became the property of Daniel, who sold it in 1835 to Porter Bradstreet. This is

the first time it passed out of the Averill name. It was worked by him until his death, 1849, and then became the property of Nehemiah Perkins, who repaired it and added a new wheel. In the settlement of his estate it became the property of his son, the late Austin Perkins, who ran it for many years. On the night of Feb. 22, 1891 it was burned, perhaps by the same hand which a few months later burned the Blaisdell house, so called, to the ground. The saw which was in the mill at the time it was burned was one which had lain in the attic of the house of the late Benj. Towne 45 years and was taken from the Peabody mill in 1842. It still exists and is of interest because of its connection with both mills.

The old house, whose ruins may be seen near the mill, was one which was brought from the west part of the town by kind hearted neighbors and placed upon a small plot of land staked out from the neighboring pasture, and here lived Mehitable Averill-Beckford and later her son Samuel, his wife, who was also an Averill, and their two children. Many of my listeners are familiar with the lives and characteristics of these later occupants and together with

the cottage, the mill and its surroundings will ever form one of the brightest, dearest pictures on "memories' wall." Those who never frequented the place cannot appreciate the quaint charms it holds for us, who have sat in the little house listening to the good woman's stories of other days, and when the infirmities of age approached, heard her complaints and sought to administer relief or stood under the fragrant lilacs while she called the birds to feed near her, walked through the tiny garden and inhaled the sweet scent of spicy pinks, the balm and thyme, and the rich, old damask roses, heavy with sweetness and then crossing the mill yard and on under the willows to the wasteway, where, if the water was high, we had a view of a miniature cataract. We can not help a feeling of loneliness and regret as we pass through these familiar ways. May we hope and trust that their memory at least will survive in the minds of our townspeople, and that some future historian will be able to give a complete and more perfect account than I have been able to do.

[A paper read before the Topsfield Historical Society at a field meeting held June 18, 1896.—Ed.]



## Charles H. Holmes.

### LAWYER AND POET.

By FRANLLIN BALCH.

Intention is not an attribute of reputation. Our life is what we make it. Reputation is what people think of us, and the biography of a person is in absolute control of the author, who adapts his work to the reader who will pay the highest price.

The exception to this rule may be found in the author whose object is for the higher consideration—to perpetuate to the memory whatever there is of value and interest in our local history of by-gone-days.

Four score and six years ago next Dec. 1st, 1896, there was born in the town of Alfred, York Co., Maine, the second son of Mr. John and Sarah Ann (Brooks) Holmes.

John Holmes was born in Kingston, Plymouth Co., Mass.. March 28, 1773, was graduated from Brown University. 1796, admitted to the bar 1799, was a prominent member of the Mass. legislature and U. S. Senate. He was one of the most active members of the convention and chairman of the committee that framed the constitution of the state of Maine, and for many years was a trustee of Bowdoin College. He died in Portland in 1843, July 7th.

After graduating from Brown University John Holmes, influenced by the apparent advantage of practicing law among the advance guard of civilization, left his home in south eastern Massachusetts, and opened a law office at Alfred, Maine.

Immense ascendancy and unbound-

ed activity won for himself universal esteem and in 1820 when this part of Massachusetts had come to be the state of Maine, Mr. John Holmes was called upon to represent his state in the U. S. Senate, where he was known as the first Maine Senator. By this title he is best known to this day. His profound views as a statesman, and the commanding qualities of an orator, secured for him in Congress the attention and esteem of such men as Thomas H. Benton, Henry Clay and Levi Woodbury.

The year 1825 found his son, Charles Henry Holmes, entering Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine. Two years later he came into Massachusetts to complete his collegiate education, and entering Brown University, Providence, was graduated Sept. 2nd, 1829, among the first in rank in his class.

We are told that while in college he manifested those characteristics resulting from more than ordinary power of application, and while hindered by the intervention of romantic and poetic nature, he possessed such powers of intellectual acquisition as are seldom observed. His standard at Brown for his first term was, "attendance 100, conduct 100, scholarship excellent." His expenses were "steward's bill \$1.68 per week, damage, breaking a pane of glass, 25 cents." This report proves him to be an accomplished classical scholar, aided by that decision of conduct and

uprightness of character that always secures success.

To these transports of fame there succeeded that phrensy so fatal to those whom nature has allowed to be the children of great men. His sincere intentions and aspirations were diverted by returning to the shadow of his own fig-tree, and opening a law office in Cornishville, Maine. Here he practiced a few years and then came again into Massachusetts. He was welcomed by Miss Harriet J. Emerson, to whom he was married in a few days. To the more sedate person it may seem that he overstepped the bounds of prudence in so hastily concluding a matter of so vast importance.

It appears that there lived in Alfred, a person by the name of Joseph Emerson. He was well acquainted with Hon. John Holmes and watched with more than a friendly interest the welfare and advancement of young Charles.

There was born in Topsfield, Mass., 3 years after the birth of our subject, a daughter to Mr. Joseph and Lydia (Burrell) Emerson, who was named Harriet Josephene Emerson. Being the only child of a well-to-do man, she was prevailed upon to accept all the opportunities of classical instruction that were available in those days, when it was thought not entirely proper for a lady to attain an advanced classical education.

We are told that a higher education is useful only to the few, and general ignorance is neither the greatest evil nor the least to be desired; a mass of ill digested information is much more dangerous, and the increase of knowledge is but an addi-

tion to the lever by which vice dissolves the fabric of society. Not so with Miss Emerson. With the advance of her education she rose to that standard of attainment which if unjustly used, to quote her own words, "leads one to search into the hidden secrets of nature to obtain a knowledge, alike useless and forbidden, that destroyed the harmony in Eden, and condemned all unborn generations to the just but most irksome penalty of disobedience."

Public opinion considered Miss Emerson the most talented woman of the 19th century in this vicinity, and was it not natural that as she had a cousin, Mr. Joseph Emerson, living in Alfred, an intimate friend of Hon. John Holmes, that the welfare and advancement of "young Charles," *should* be watched with more than a friendly interest? This interest was communicated to Charles and Harriet, so that before they had seen each other they virtually became engaged.

There was married at Topsfield, Mass., on the 26th of March, 1836, C. H. Holmes of Cornishville, Maine, to Harriet J. Emerson of Topsfield. This is the substance of the record.

This equal and loving alliance which now-a-days often precedes, and is *concluded* with the marriage ceremony, seemed to invest her powerful lord with the authority of a parent over a submissive pupil. The writer remembers the "Squire" in the last of his life, six feet six inches tall, as he entered church on Sunday passing up the aisle to the wing pew nearest the pulpit, and it was with a boyish interest and anxiety that I sought the end of my father's pew and await the appearance of that "wonderful

tall man."

After marriage, Mr. Holmes made his home in Topsfield, where he remained for the last 50 years of his life. The father of Mrs. Holmes died in 1826 and left his house and part of his property to his wife and daughter, and at this house Mr. Holmes first and last resided.

As the experience of past faults is seldom imparted to those who are allured into the same career of folly, so Mr. Holmes venture to her home, "with none of the *a-la-mode*, show-off, scholastic, superfluous manner; but as a thorough, practical well doer, matter-of-fact-man, maintaining his character and position without fear."

While Mrs. Emerson lived she aided in every way to maintain union and affection in the family. In this she succeeded, *but* was nevertheless his mother-in-law.

Mr. Holmes at once assumed control of his wife's property, she giving him a promissory title to her share in case of her death, and began farming in a theoretical sort of way. He also received a lawyer's license to practice law, but most of all he practised the virtues of domestic life, and to the last may be attributed the remarkable alteration of his character and conduct. It is said that the different characters that mark the civilized nations of the globe may be ascribed to the use and abuse of reason; but we think that his effeminate luxury, which almost tended to indolence, was due to the relaxation of discipline and was only the ardent and passionate disposition manifested in college, now bursting forth unhindered by any high ambition. But we may suppose that he produced a

favorable impression among his town's people by his election to the General Court as their representative in 1837, the following year after coming into town. At this session he was placed on one of the standing committees.

Anything attendant to a person of prominence in starting on his career is of interest, and here it is not amiss to refer to a letter written by his father to Charles, upon the advent of his first election to public office. This letter is also of value as showing the feelings and inspirations of one of the most prominent of men in New England.

Thomaston, Me.

2nd Nov. 1837.

I have received dear Charles your letter announcing your election to the legislature of Mass. with much pleasure, but with some solicitude. It is naturally flattering & no doubt gratifying to you that stranger almost as you are, you should have been elected, & by the influence of age and experience on the other hand you are, probably without intending it, embarked on the tempestuous ocean of politics for a long service. For young as you are and ardent moreover it will be a hard struggle to return. The first year will be tedious and you will resolve that it shall be the last. The election comes round, and the partiality of your friends and all the assaults of your enemies & your prospects of promotion influencing a little perhaps will combine to induce you to stand for *reelection*. Before this term shall expire you will have formed friendships, contracted alliances, and become enlisted in measures and schemes from which it

will be extremely difficult to be disengaged, you wish to be returned for your own sake. By some of those casualties to which public life is exposed, your own imprudence, treacherous friends open enemies, any or all may defeat or postpone you. By this time your feelings of ambition and revenge will be roused. You will go back *into the ranks* to strive for promotion again.

If defeated again, you will more than ever press on. You may succeed and continue to mount and soar until you will have distinguished yourself in the great council of the nation. There you will meet with more resistance, as your station will be worth competition. Suppose you defeat them all still how much sacrifice of true wealth, principle, peace & domestic indearment must have been sacrificed.

All this you will now say is crying "sour grapes!" Be it so!—And although I think my grapes have not been very sour still I am willing you should consider these remarks as the result of at least superannuated prudence, so no more of this, and if taking the case as it is allow me to suggest some few monitions which may serve you in your new career. Your talents will not be hid. Your relationship to one who has been so long and so much the object of public observation and animadversion, will point you out as an object of curiosity & criticism.

As there is a propensity among men and associate bodies of men, to measure in some sense the one by the other, more may be expected from you than from other new members, some too may suppose that your op-

portunities for political information have been greater than other young men. Now all this consideration may raise expectation which may not be realized.

A little caution at first will therefore be indespensible to prevent disappointment. Be *slow* then in coming out, otherwise you might speak yourself out before you get in. Never speak on any subject till you are fully prepared. Prepared or not don't speak often—never begin to speak till you have something to say and always leave off when you are done.

Never speak or think *meanly* of your adversary. A good natured hit may do very well but a well timed compliment much better. While you should never surrender principle you should never triumph over a fallen adversary.

Study well, and methodically. Your chief fault is a desultory mode, here a little and there a little without a certain perspicuous method, and when once established it will be of incalculable advantage. If defeated and mortified never pine nor be discouraged.

I have known the first essay of a young man to be an entire failure & yet there was remaining a recuperative energy which overcame and triumphed at last.

In all cases be honest in your opinion, especially appear to be so. If you seem to lack confidence in your cause you will surely fail to convince.

I am truly yours,  
J. Holmes.

One session of legislative life end-

ed Mr. Holmes' political career and in the spring of 1838 he returned to private life and began to till his farm, and settle estates or any other business of a lawyer. But the absence of a large town and the peaceable, even tenor of the ways of the people in his vicinity, gave little employment in the legal line of his profession.

Connected as he was by marriage with so estimable and talented a woman, we may learn of her influence and his character by her journals so far as they pertain to the surrounding home. In this journal which she carefully kept for years, we find these words :

Jan. 1, 1835. "I have felt sad all day. This morning Charles received the melancholly news of his brother's dangerous illness and he left for Alfred this afternoon. It was sad tidings for a New Year's news. O how much I feel his absence. The man who took him to the cars has not yet returned. God forbid any accident.

Jan. 10, 1835. "Charles sent word after tea that he should pass the evening away, having some business of importance to attend to, and that he should not return till late. It is now almost eleven and he has not come. It is a very unusual thing for him to pass an evening away from our dear and festive fireside. I will go to bed as it is so late and not wait for him any longer.

Jan. 11, 1835. "I went to bed last evening or rather night, about midnight and before I went to sleep Charles returned. He did not let me know where he was going for fear it would trouble me but sent me such a

message as would lead me to imagine, as I did that he had gone to attend to some law business, but when he came back he told me the cause of his absence. John Towle had been missing ever since ten o'clock in the forenoon, and it was supposed that he had lost his way going home, and had wandered into Wenham swamp. Several people had been looking for him all the afternoon and had returned entirely discouraged, and maintained that every effort to find him that night would be in vain, but Mr. Holmes told them that if he was found alive he must be found that night. He took two men in his sleigh and several other sleighs accompanied him and they drove as fast as possible to Wenham. This was about 6 P. M. The men at Wenham were very kind and joined in the search. A party of 25 men entered the swamp. Charles formed them into five different parties each with a guide and a lantern, and taking separate directions the search was begun. One hurrah was to declare that their object was accomplished and two hurrahs to bring them together. About 10 o'clock a loud shout was heard. The poor fellow was found leaning with folded arms against a tree entirely exhausted, for he had been travelling in that labyrinthian swamp all day. He was stiff with cold and would surely have frozen to death before morning. He was taken to a house near and everything done for his comfort and may God bless the people of Wenham for their true kindness, and each of those 25 men last night sought their pillows with the happiness that ever follows a kind action."



The Garrison-Holmes House.



After ten years of happy married life, as all reports combine to show, Mrs. Holmes became ill. For the last four years of her life there are numerous "I have just recovered from a severe attack of illness," to be found in her journals and she was unable to care for herself for a long time before her death, which occurred Sept. 17, 1849, aged 36 years, 7 months, 25 days. She died not in the fullness of years, but endowed with intellectual genius borne far in advance of her age by deep thought, patient investigation and ever attentive research.

The dignity of virtue and the charms of beauty no more could cull or restrain the adventurous disposition of Mr. Holmes. He let his house and boarded at various places about town, passing his leisure time in a variety of adventures that would pass for fabulous if they had not occurred in real life. He served on the school board for the years 1856, 1864, and 1866, always acting as chairman. The following extracts from his school reports are interesting:

"My relations with the schools of Topsfield have been peculiarly grateful the past year. With no personal paternity myself, the affectionate yearnings of my nature were transferred to the children of my care, who became sons and daughters by adoption, looking up to me as their great supervising father."

"Miss Anna C. D. Holmes, of Ipswich, who although considered a competent teacher, did not exactly suit the 'city' people, who, nurtured in the school of republican freedom, could ill brook the stern discipline

and unfamiliar indignities perpetrated on 'them and theirs',—but one, and then another, till the whole population en masse, little and big, man, woman and child, whispered, murmured, threatened, denounced and at last rising like a volcano, burst with fiery indignation into open rebellion, kicking up a great dust in all the region round about. So frantically intense was the convulsion that the very animals and even the elements conspired in sympathetic expressiveness. The geese, whose ancestors saved Rome, with conscious political importance, loudly vociferated, quack! quack! quack! The turkey, that true *native American* with indigenous consequential pride, gobbled about calamities of foreign participation. The sheep, aroused from their quietude by the passing events, looking askance, gave a contemptuous bah! The horse indicated his course by a racy, yet positive neigh. Chanticleer, crested and spurred, and red with ire, from an eminence blew his clarion note of defiance; and the dog and cat, fraternizing in the common cause, duetted a caterwauling howl of execration. The bellicose bull tossed a horn to the success of the enterprise, while the pacific guinea hen in the spirit of true kindness cried out earnestly, go back! go back! go back! Nor these alone, for Trinity River itself, that evangelical stream, swollen with rage, bursting forth in a torrent of wrathful outpouring, whirled and boiled, and eddied in irascible frothings, threatening the City mole of 'Long wharf' with demolition. To appease the tutelar Deity of the City, and

relieve it from such an impending visitation, it was judged expedient to throw the mistress over-board, Jonah-like, where upon a great calm ensued."

In 1859 there was visiting in town at Mrs. Elizabeth Perley's on High street, Miss Abbie Webster of Wood's Holl, Barnstable County. Hither Mr. Holmes was wont to go. He went with more than ordinary regularity to see Miss Webster. but great as were his talents, sincere his intentions, and unbending his probity, he was unable to carry into effect the conjunction which he so anxiously strove to produce. Mr. Holmes came home one day from visiting at her home after they had become engaged and said to Miss Welch, his housekeeper, "Miss Webster and I are done. She wanted me to give her my place before she would marry me, and I told her I wouldn't and we are done."

A man in love is generally inaccessible to argument, and he can only avert it by pursuing some new object attractive both to himself and to his friends. But there is something in courage which commands respect even amid the bitterness of faction. Segur says, that peace is the dream of the wise; war is the history of man. Youth listens without attention to those who seek to lead it by the paths of reason to happiness, and rushes with irresistible violence into the arms of the phantom which lures it by the light of glory to destruction.

Mr. Holmes was an active member of the Congregational Church in Topsfield, having been admitted Nov. 6, 1853.

The Civil War began in 1861, and Mr. Holmes was very active in recruiting troops to enter the Federal army. While he was nearly ten years in advance of the age to be drafted, he did enter the army in the spring of 1864, and remained during that summer, being honored with a lieutenant's commission.

"He was so tall that it was deemed expedient to keep him from the front, so he was stationed at Boston and other places as a recruiting officer, which duty he faithfully attended to and to the satisfaction of the department."—*Salem Mercury*.

"The tallest man in the British army is Corporal Maffit, who stands six feet seven and a half inches. That is one inch shorter than Lieut. Holmes of Topsfield, who has been in our army."—*Boston Daily Advertiser*.

On his return home he went to live where he first had lived after being married, in what is now the Congregational parsonage, and cared for the land now known as the "Holmes property." He owned a meadow located "over the river" in the extreme eastern part of the town. It was at the time when horseless wagons were in common use. The hay must be brought across the river and the oxen as they entered the water had been inclined to stop, whereupon it is said Mr. Holmes "hollered at them with such power that the vibration of the sound in the air struck the river with such force as to divide the water and his oxen and wagon were wont to go over on dry land."

In 1873 he made his will, giving \$500 to the Congregational Church

as a fund and the remaining value of his estate to the Sisters of Charity of the Roman Catholic Church, styled the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul. This latter bequest was made out of respect to the memory and wishes of his wife, who had been a member of the Roman Catholic Church. Mr. Holmes had identified himself with the Congregational Church after coming to this town, and for a long time had given the sum of \$25 per annum for the support of the gospel. By his will this gift was made perpetual.

It is singular and perhaps highly gratifying to observe the ardent enthusiasm manifested at first by only a few members of the church to avail themselves of Mr. Holmes' house as a parsonage. The 70th annual return of a day dearer to none than himself had already vanished and soon Mr. Holmes would leave his house forever.

One afternoon two ladies might have been seen looking from the front end window of our Town hall. For want of other topics one of them remarked, "What a nice place that would be for a parsonage." The parish had already been negotiating for a parsonage but no one had mentioned this house. The idea spread rapidly; a paper was circulated and money pledged for Mr. Holmes' house. A meeting was held where the maxim that measures calculated for the benefit of future ages are hardly ever agreeable for all persons in the present, was clearly manifest.

There were many propositions suggested and other places proposed, one of which was only defeated by the moderator's deciding vote. It was remarkable to observe the vehe-

ment contention that arose upon the question of purchasing the present parsonage. It surely was not a question of price. The result which followed was most pleasant. Each one joined to make it a parsonage claimed by every one. The papers were drawn; conditions settled, and that was all.

Mr. Holmes passed away ere the house had been used for the purpose intended. He died Wednesday evening, July 14, 1886, aged 74 years, 8 months, 14 days. The funeral was held the following Saturday at the house.

The following notice of his death appeared in Salem Mercury:

**"THE TALLEST MAN IN NEW ENGLAND DEAD IN TOPSFIELD."**

Charles H. Holmes, Esq., of Topsfield, well and favorably known throughout Essex County, died at his home in Topsfield at 11 o'clock last Wednesday night. He had been sick for several months. Some time ago he sustained serious injuries by being thrown from a wagon and last week was slightly sun struck, which doubtless hastened his death. For years he was a contributor to the press, his productions in the main being of a poetical character. He was a widower, his wife having died many years before. He was held in high esteem by his townsmen, and was a member of the Congregational church."

His practice at the bar, though limited, manifested knowledge of the law. His ability far excelled his judgment, but his energy of character has unquestionably left an influence in the history of this town. In

force of expression and sarcastic tion nor directed toward objects per-power he was paramount among his manent or compatible with his higher contemporaries, but his intelligence education. was not appropriated with discre-



## Poems

By C. H. HOLMES.

### THE AMERICAN FLAG.

Written for a Fourth of July celebration in 1861.

Flag of my country, hail, all hail !  
As floats thy ensign to the gale,  
Thy star-lit blue, thy unique stripes,  
Our Union and redemption types—  
All hail, I say, all hail to thee,  
Palladium of our Liberty !

How swells the heart, how beams the eye,  
As we recall a scene gone by ;  
When first had dawned our nation's sun—  
Our Independence first was won—  
A conqueror thou in Freedom's war,  
And drawn in Mars' triumphal car—  
On that glad day we celebrate  
The great epochal of our fate,  
Which all our thronging memories fix  
At July Fourth, year Seventy-six.

In later times, though less the stake,  
Victor on land, and sea, and lake,  
From 'neath thy folds went up the cry  
Of glory and of victory.  
Whate'er the gage, whate'er the foe—  
Of Britain or of Mexico—  
Thus runs thy record with these powers :  
“We've met the foe and they are ours.”



Nobly hast thou sustained our cause  
 In all our policies and wars ;  
 Gaining respect at home, abroad,  
 With civilized and savage horde,  
 And e'er maintaining thy first stand,  
 The pride and glory of our land !

Now clouds and darkness round us lower,  
 Yet, guarded by a spirit power,  
 That sainted and departed band,  
 The hero fathers of our land ;  
 Invoking, too, our father's God,  
 We'll "bless the hand and kiss the rod,"  
 And wearing sackcloth 'neath our mail,  
 Armed at allpoints our foe assail.

Shades of our sires, ye mighty dead,  
 Heroes whom Washington hath led,  
 Who helped our Union fabric rear,—  
 Patriot spirits, now appear,  
 And, like the spirit Cid of yore,  
 In all our battles go before !

God of our sires, "who brought them up"  
 Oh, pass from us this bitter "cup"—  
 This bitter cup with passions rife,  
 The jarring elements of strife ;  
 If not for ours for their sake save  
 The Union thou the fathers gave—  
 Hold in thy right hand still those "stars"  
 And save us from domestic wars.

Walk still midst these thy "candlesticks,"  
 And so o'errule our politics  
 That we shall be united. free,  
 From lake to gulf, from sea to sea !

### WILD GOOSE POND.

Near my old house, and be it known  
 That I've the oldest house in town,  
 Numbering full two hundred years  
 As by the record here appears,  
 Tho' some versed in traditions lore  
 Say 'twas a fort-house years before

And for a parsonage built anew.  
 Such too is the Emerson view  
 Who have possessed the same estate  
 Since Seventeen hundred and thirty-eight,  
 Buying it of the Capen heirs  
 Or who had charge of their affairs.  
 The Emersons we think would know  
 Whether or not the thing was so.  
 The old house stands on rising ground  
 And is as straight as can be found,  
 Resembling much, Fort-House in York,  
 Concerning which has been much talk.  
 A photograph of which you'll see  
 In Harper's New England History.  
 It has a Puritanic look  
 Rather of Holland, not mistook,  
 Of which we have the amplest proof  
 In the projecting front and roof,  
 And built thus out of compliment  
 To Holland, where the Pilgrims went  
 When persecuted to the stake  
 They fled for their religion's sake  
 And spent twelve years with their Dutch friends.  
 And here their persecution ends,  
 For Holland was the only place  
 That had a free religion base,  
 The only State in Europe too  
 That dared promulgate this broad view.  
 Were I disposed I could say more  
 About the house, its chimney, floor,  
 Or the firm brick clay mortar wall  
 Sufficient to resist a ball ;  
 Of the low door, which here has swung  
 Two-hundred years since first 'twas hung.  
 And all of the et cetera  
 Connected with it any way,  
 But time and space will not allow  
 Of a more full description now.

Near the old house there is a pond  
 Not like the Scottish Lake Lomond,  
 But a smallish bit of water  
 Six square rods or such a matter.  
 Though in the Spring time flowing o'er  
 Full out an acre's space or more

And then the boys rig out their crafts  
 In tiny boats and treacherous rafts,  
 And in the Winter far and wide  
 The boys and girls come here to slide ;  
 And then it is a famous place  
 For all of the aquatic race,  
 And every kind of varmint thing  
 Which harmless is without a sting.  
 The naturalist in this abode  
 Will find the frog, snake, turtle, toad.  
 The hunter finds the musquash rat  
 By which the hatter makes the hat.  
 Sporting fisherman will find  
 Fishes of almost every kind,  
 For I have found in my research  
 Shiners, roach pickerel and perch ;  
 How they first came there, I suppose  
 'Twas on the misty wind that blows.  
 Some years ago, perhaps 'twas six,  
 The time I can't exactly fix,  
 Some strangers of the quashie race  
 Arrived here at this central place,  
 And built their home, and formed their nest,  
 And seemed determined here to rest.  
 Of course these strangers made a stir  
 With their perfume and garb of fur,  
 Resembling much the modern belle  
 In their 'fumed habits and their smell.  
 The modern beau, too, if you please,  
 Redolent with his scented grease.  
 At first the quash was very sly  
 When any person came too nigh,  
 But when a little artless girl  
 With laughing eye and sunny curl,  
 Had made the quashies comprehend,  
 She was their real social friend.  
 By placing 'fore them bread and meat,  
 The quashies then came out to eat ;  
 Which verifies the simple fact,  
 And by the Bible too is backed,  
 That in proportion as we're kind,  
 The laws of love all nature bind.  
 It was so surely at the first  
 Before the earth by hate was cursed,  
 And will be inspired prophets say,

On the great millennial day,  
 When with the wolf the lamb will feed,  
 And these a little child shall lead.  
 So here these musksquash sly and wild  
 Were tamed and petted by a child.

Now I'll relate just how it came  
 That "Wild Goose Pond" obtained its name.  
 A wild goose wearied by its flight  
 Lit in this pond and spent the night,  
 And just before the break of day  
 Spread its broad wings and sped away,  
 And from this circumstance arose  
 "Wild Goose Pond's" name, with this I close

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#### MY LOVE FOR THEE.

My love for thee is infinite,  
 It is my solace and delight.  
 Where'er I go, what'er I do,  
 The world's a void without thee too.  
 Inspired by thy angelic face,  
 Indeed thy every charming grace,  
 The simplest act in thee I see  
 Perfection's work—Divinity.  
 Thy heart's affection is a mine  
 Where princely wealth doth sure combine ;  
 Far more than I conceived could be  
 Enveloped in mortality,  
 Than which the fancies' light can beam  
 Is but a faint expiring gleam.  
 Darling ! I love thee, yea, adore,  
 With seraph's lyre could I say more ?  
 My life ! my hope ! my harp ! thou art,  
 The cherished music of my heart.

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#### BLACK SELIM.

Topsfield, April 4, 1858.

EDITOR NEWBURYPORT HERALD :—At the earnest request of my neighbors. superadded to my own appreciation of "departed worth," I have been induced to write in "offhand verse," an elegy on my old and faithful horse,

"Black Selim," who died in his thirty-sixth year, and who had gained a "Bucephaline" notoriety not only in Topsfield, but "the whole region round about." Will you have the kindness to insert it in your paper, and oblige

Your obedient servant,  
C. H. HOLMES.

No common merit I rehearse,  
But dedicate my humble verse  
To eulogize an equine friend ;  
And of his death this notice send.

"Black Selim's" days are passed and gone ;  
He died of age last Monday morn,  
And lies where oft he took his ease,  
Between two stately ashen trees.  
He was lamented through the town,  
For everywhere was he well known ;  
And when we named "the old black horse,"  
All knew just what he meant, "of course."  
He was the village patriarch,  
The theme of wonder and remark,  
And everywhere his shape and age  
Were criticised by jockey's sage.  
He was permitted free to range,  
A better horse all round the grange,  
By road and common ne'er was seized,  
But cropped the grass just where he pleased ;  
Incurring only one disgrace,  
Of "creeping through a narrow place ;"  
'Twas mere conjecture, for his stay  
Was ne'er prolonged till break of day ;  
But circumstantial proof was strong.  
From certain vestiges along ;  
Unlike to some who scrapes get in,  
He always could get out again.  
If Spartan virtue were the rule,  
He surely was "more rogue than fool."  
His color was of blackest hue.  
Except when old, quite gray he grew ;  
From head to foot, in all his points,  
His "make" was perfect to his joints ;  
And all allowed, both far and near,  
That no horse e'er had finer ear.  
He ne'er indulged in vicious tricks,

Like many horses, nor in kicks ;  
 But without "hitching" always stood,  
 And as you'd like, so was his mood.  
 Was fleet in gig, and sure on back,  
 Could ramble, canter, gallop, rack ;  
 Was full of frolic and of fun,  
 Yet kind, and ever prompt to run ;  
 He was just suited to my mind,  
 His equal I shall never find ;  
 Was old, well tried, thus doubly dear,  
 Though in his six-and-thirtieth year ;  
 And owned by me full twenty-one,  
 As by his pedigree is shown.  
 One Billy Emerson I am told,  
 Kept him until thirteen years old,  
 A year after his death or so,  
 (And 'twas in '35 I know,)  
 I bought him, and this time will bring  
 His age to thirty-six this Spring.  
 This horseman said he was the best  
 Of all the steeds he e'er possessed ;  
 And he had owned his thousands. too,  
 And such a horse he never knew.  
 The wondrous 'scapes that I could tell,  
 By road and field that me befell,  
 Up hill and down, through mud and mire,  
 'Cross rivers deep, and ditches dire,  
 And all the freaks I could relate,  
 Would make one laugh at any rate.  
 How oft I've rode like one bewitched,  
 And by the sport did feel enriched,  
 Boys running out to see the canter,  
 Like that of the famed "Tam O'Shanter,"  
 And though I've met the middle age,  
 By maxim should be tame and sage,  
 Which says, "at forty tame or never,"  
 Yet I like races well as ever.  
 I never reached the "Hovey Place,"  
 Without enjoying one good race ;  
 There is a long and level plain,  
 Before this little farm I gain,  
 A steep and quite a sandy hill.  
 Near by a bridged and rippling rill,  
 Called from the tenants of the nook,  
 By common parlance, "Gallop's Brook ;"

And lies about a mile or so,  
 From Topsfieldville as north you go.  
 Ere this was reached he slowly went,  
 As if upon some fell intent;  
 One would have thought him in a doze.  
 Seeing between his legs and nose:  
 I knew him well—'twas his cunning,  
 Pacing slowly for his running.  
 The summit gained, he made a leap,  
 And down he dashed the hill-side steep,  
 O'er the wide bridge he madly rushed,  
 And up another hill he pushed,  
 With such furious pace and clatter,  
 The people cried, "What's the matter?"  
 The frogs dived quickly in the stream,  
 The birds flew off with frightened scream,  
 The dogs rushed out with bark and yell,  
 And horse and dogs all went pell-mell;  
 Up went the windows from the doors  
 The hats were swung with deaf'ning roars,  
 "With bark and whoop," and loud halloo,  
 The hills re-echoed "go it, go,"  
 The gig was tossed with direful squeak,  
 Threatening the vehicle to break,  
 Sometimes on two wheels, then on one,  
 Yet right side up I always won.  
 Fond memory delights to trace  
 My trusty friend in cosy pace,  
 Associated from my youth,  
 In every phase in life in truth:  
 I call to mind the truth far back,  
 When he was styled the "bonny black,"  
 With ease could trot from my own door  
 To Alfred, seventy miles or more;  
 Each day could draw his cord of wood  
 Two miles five times from where he stood;  
 And when grown old he ne'er would flag,  
 But was the same prompt racing nag.  
 When thirty-two he drew a ton  
 Eight miles an hour, myself therein;  
 And e'en last Fall when on a tour,  
 He trotted full eight miles the hour,  
 And never needed whip or spur,  
 Whate'er the distance, near or far;  
 And yet his size and weight were small,

Being eight hundred—that was all.  
 Indeed he was a matchless steed,  
 And well deserved the “olive meed,”  
 Outstripping all of his compeers  
 In strength and bottom, speed and years.  
 As he who at the Olympia race,  
 By some misfortune lost his place ;  
 His steeds performed the accustomed round,  
 And by the judges then were crowned ;  
 Although my seat I ne’er have lost,  
 Or ever from my seat been tost,  
 And always could my steed restrain,  
 Or prompt him to the racing vein,  
 And ever had him at command,  
 With tightened rein, and “well on hand,”  
 Still let his deeds emblazoned be,  
 The meed to him and not to me,  
 Sufficient praise for me to own  
 The best of steeds, and this alone,  
 Although some persons may say fie  
 At my sentimentality,  
 Yet I this weakness will confess.  
 For “Selim’s” death in stoic virtue brave,  
 I dropt a tear upon his grave.

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## FOR SALE.

Who ever wants a country seat,  
 Removed from summer’s dust and heat,  
 With a wide common right between  
 The road and house in living green,  
 Shaded by stately ashen trees  
 And shut out from the noxious breeze,  
 Let him just leave the country road  
 And step across to my abode,  
 A view of which will here be seen  
 A photographic view I wean.

Terms easy to the man who’d buy,  
 At any rate one can but try.

C. H. HOLMES,

Topsfield, May 25, 1885.

*Salem Gazette.*

# FARM LANDS

## AT AUCTION.

The Heirs of Stephen Perley say  
 On THURSDAY, 23d of May,  
 At 10 A. M., they'll sell th'estate  
 Of Stephen P., of Topsfield late.  
 This Farm lies in a quiet nook,  
 Almost surrounded by Pye-Brook,  
 Save on the line to this abode,  
 Along Low's Mill and Boxford road;  
 And is about a mile or so  
 From Topsfield Church as North you go;  
 Though to the farthest point, by Clapp's,  
 The distance is two miles, perhaps,  
 Containing, as the Deeds express.  
 One hundred Acres, more or less.  
 Here on this ancient place one finds  
 The soils and growths of different kinds.  
 Peat, Pasture, Wood, Field, Meadow Land,  
 From fertile soil to barren sand,  
 These we've arranged in shape and size,  
 To suit the purchaser who buys  
 From thirty acres down to three,  
 Just as the quality may be.  
 The man who'd like a quiet life,  
 (Save love-spats from his darling wife,)  
 And farm, or hunt, or sport the brook,  
 Will just turn in and take a look.  
 Terms, one-fifth Cash, the auction day,  
 The rest, in thirty days to pay.  
 To see this farm, whoever comes,  
 Will please to call on C. H. HOLMES,  
 Or, on your servant, S. D. HOOD,  
 Who's Auctioneer, 'tis understood.

S. D. HOOD, Auctioneer.

Topsfield, May 11, 1867.

## The McKenzie Family in Topsfield.

By ALFRED MCKENZIE.

Read before the Historical Society by Miss Marietta Clark.

The ancestors of the subject of gle with both the Northern and this paper were racially traceable back to the Scots who came by the way of Spain into Ireland early in the Christian era, for when St. Patrick, the Italian missionary, was there in the fifth century, he speaks of them as the Regeels (Rulers) and of the common people as Hyberni-genal. The name Scot, rendered from Celtic, means Wanderer but taken from the German of Scythia (Scutten) would signify Scythian race. But certainly they were a very energetic people and remarkable for making room for themselves as they ruled the country till it took the name of Scotia and retained it for many centuries.

About the sixth century they wandered into Argyleshire, a district of the country known since the eighth century as Scotland. They increased there in numbers till they formed the kingdom of Dalsiade. Thus there came to be three kingdoms within the bounds of North Britain, that of the Northern Picts, or people of the woods, Southern Picts and the Scots.

Sometime near the beginning of the eighth century (730 A. D.) the Northern Picts quarreled and went to war with the Southern Picts. The Scots were appealed to and gave aid to the Northern Picts; thus began a war which lasted more than a century. A reverse to the Scots induced them to call over their kindred from Ireland, and after a long strug-

gle with both the Northern and Southern Picts, the Scots became master of the country, and in 843 A. D. crowned Kenneth, "the hardy" King of the Scots, down by the Scot water or Forth.

This is the event known in history as the Scottish conquest.

The stone upon which this king was crowned was called Lia Fial or "Stone of Destiny." It was carried to England by Edward the First in the year 1296, and now forms a part of the coronation seat. Queen Victoria was crowned upon it.

The crest and armorial bearings of the family this paper concerns, appears none other than that of the Scots. The crest was the face of the sun in a halo of light; and the armorial bearings, a shield held by two persons; one hand holds the shield and the other a lighted torch. Upon the shield a buck's head; all of which was crowned by a helmet, beneath inscribed in latin "Lucio non Uro" (Light, not Darkness).

When in the year 81 of the Christian era, Agricola invaded North Britain, it was inhabited by twenty-one aboriginal tribes or claus.

The introduction of clanship and tartans seems to be beyond the reach of history, but Logan in his Scottish Gael gives the following extract from the charge and discharge of John Bishop of Glasgow, treasurer to King James III, 1471:

"Ane elue and ane halve of blue Tartane to lyne his gowne of cloth

of gold."

I have not been able to ascertain the exact number of clans in Scotland. In a little book entitled "The Scottish Clans" I find a map of Scotland divided into clans in the 10th century, with the names of thirty-one written below, probably the principal ones, as many more are marked out on the map. The same book gives a list of ninety-six clans and families with their tartans.

Far up in the north of Scotland we find the clan of MacKenzie. The descent of the chief of this clan—

"MacKenneth, great Earl of the North,  
The Lord of Loch Carron, Glensheil  
and Seaforth"

is of pure Scoto-Gaelic descent, with a strain of Irish as asserted by Douglas and others.

Colin, eleventh chief, fought bravely for Queen Mary at the battle of Langside, for which he was afterwards pardoned by the Regent Murray.

Kenneth, his eldest son by Barbara Grant of that ilk, was raised to the peerage in 1609 as Lord MacKenzie of Kintail. Colin, their eldest son, was created Earl of Seaforth in 1623.

In Robertson's "Index of Missing Charters" there is a Crown charter of Confirmation by David II for the lands of "Kintale" in 1344 when a grant of that and other lands by William, Earl of Ross, to Reginald, son of Roderick de Insulis, dated 1342, 4th July is confirmed. In MacKenzie's "History of the Clan" the earliest date which can be assigned for its acquisition of Kintail

from John, Earl of Ross, is 1463. After the forfeiture of the Lords of the Isles, the clan, like all others in the west, became independent.

There is a tradition in the MacKenzie family that the Topsfield MacKenzies are directly descended from the Earl of Seaforth.

The fighting force of the MacKenzies is given by Forbes as 2500 men, adding those of the Earl of Cromarty and the Lairds of Gairloch, Skatwell, Killcowie, Redcastle and Comrie, all MacKenzies.

The war cry of the MacKenzies was "Tulach Ard," a mountain near castle Donnan, the strong hold of the clan anciently.

The badge of the MacKenzies and MacLeans was in Gaelic "Cuilion," in English "Holly."

I do not know the extent of their lands, but there were but two clans north of them.

The great attachment of the clansmen to their chieftain is shown by the following incident. "In 1778 Edinburgh was startled by what was known as the "Affair of the Wild Macraes," some hundreds of whom had enrolled in the Seaforth Regiment of Highlanders formed in 1778 by Kenneth, the Earl of that title ("that is, the head of the MacKenzie clan") and which mutinied at Edinburgh on hearing that they had been sold to the East India company.

General Skene, Lord Macdonald and others proved to the men that their complaints were groundless and the affair was settled. The regiment then marched, with pipes playing, to Holyrood, and afterwards sailed for India on what proved a fatal voyage to the MacKenzies and Macraes, for

ere St. Helena was in sight Lord arriving below decks both were put Seaforth died and then a great grief, in irons. Ordinarily their social with homesickness, fell upon his position would have kept them free clansmen, so of the thousand who from such a seizure and they little sailed from the British Isles, 230 expected such treatment. In due perished at sea, and only 390 were time the transport put to sea and able to carry arms when they began Enoch and his companion were put the march to Chingleput.

From the history of the MacKenzie clan we will now pass to that of our Topsfield MacKenzies.

Enoch MacKenzie, the father of John and grandfather of John's progeny, was born in Inverness, Scotland, about the year seventeen hundred and fifty-eight, and was the second son of a family of five children, three sons and two daughters. The oldest son, in accordance with the custom of that country and England in families of some means, was provided for by giving him a military education. Thus was Alexander the oldest trained, finally entering the army with the commission of a lieutenant. The second son, Enoch, was sent to Edinburgh for a course preparatory for some profession. In the early part of his course, war between England and the American colonies began and the was called into the service and sent to America. At that time the Clyde was navigable only to Greenock for vessels of any considerable size. A transport having arrived bound for the American colonies, to take the mails and by press-gangs to replenish the English army and navy, Enoch, with a college companion, went down to deliver on board the transport, letters to his brother the lieutenant. They were very courteously received and invited to go below and inspect the vessel.

Arriving on the American coast, the transport was pursued by an American privateer and taken. When taken the two young men were found below in irons. Enoch always congratulated himself and praised his companion for their decisions. When they were called for action they refused to obey and not even the threat of suffering the penalty of traitors would induce them to comply. They were therefore ironed below. The transport was taken into Boston harbor and a part of the crew were sent to Salem as prisoners of war. Among these was Enoch. At that early time of the war there was no particular provision made for detaining prisoners of war except in the large towns, and they relieved themselves and the tedium of the prisoners, by allowing themselves to be selected by farmers to work for their board till exchanged. Out of an early number sent to Salem, Mr. Emerson, who resided at the north end of the common in Topsfield, had selected one who was of a dignified bearing and a gentleman of culture. Hearing of another arrival, the following market day. Mr. Emerson, wishing to find a fit associate for the one he had, called to view them. Seeing one of a more intelligent cast

than the rest although quite young, he approached him, informing him of his desire, with which the prisoner readily complied. Mr. Emerson with his selection started upon his journey home. Soon engaging him in conversation he found his judgment fully confirmed. When arriving near the end of their journey, just before turning off the main street to the house, the first prisoner, in his anxiety to learn the news, which in those times traveled slowly, had walked out to meet Mr. Emerson ; just as they were abreast, the young man having finished an earnest conversation, turned his head to the pedestrian and sprang directly upon him. Mr. Emerson was at first dumbfounded, but in a moment relieved and delighted at hearing Enoch exclaim "brother—Alexander" ! Here was his brother the lieutenant, who had been previously taken prisoner, and was awaiting an exchange of officers of his grade.

Up to this time the English had refused exchange on double grounds ; first that we were rebels ; second a like commission of ours was not an equivalent of theirs. This delay gave ample time for the two brothers to deliberate upon their future course. Alexander could see no possible chance for the colonies, in their weakness, to succeed against so powerful a nation as England, and in case of failure if he entered our service his fate would be the gallows. The younger had determined from the first to enlist in the American service during the war, however it might terminate, but to remain with his brother till the question of his exchange should be settled. When

at length that occurred, Alexander appended the condition, that he, having relations in the American Army, would accept an exchange only on the condition, that he be assigned to the East India service during the continuance of the American war. This was complied with and subsequently confirmed by letters received from him dated from that place. Enoch immediately enlisted in the Continental army, served to the end of the war and received an honorable discharge.

Topsfield being the only town in which he had made acquaintances he therefore passed his furloughs there and some of his time in a family of one of its soldiers, an acquaintance formed in the army, and who had daughters. This led to an event which is not uncommon to young men, even today, which, in the sum of time crystallized into six enteties, three sons and three daughters ; John, William and Abraham ; Catharine, Susan and Mary. John was born during his father's brief residence in Topsfield, the others in Londonderry, N. H., where he remained till his family exceeded the capacity of his farm, when he removed to Waltham, Vermont, where he and his family, except John, passed the remainder of their days. John remained in Topsfield till he went to an apprenticeship with a wheelwright, in Lynn. At the end of that service, he married and established himself in the business of his trade in Lynn ; but, possessing a marked mechanical genius, he soon added that of carpentry, joinery and millwright, which trades he successfully followed several years till in-

duced to purchase a farm in Topsfield and move there. At this time he had two children, having soon after attained his majority married Elizabeth Searle, the daughter of a puritan from England who came here about the year sixteen hundred and thirty-eight to enjoy in freedom his religion, and settled in what has been known as Newbury—Oldtown. Being a well-to-do farmer he gave his children, in accordance with puritanic conceptions, a good education in the more solid and practical branches; but Elizabeth, being energetic and enterprising, ventured into the higher grades and therefore was instructed much above the average females of her time. Her activity induced her to follow teaching till she married. She was a kind mother and still held her team of seven boys well in hand, always commanding their respect, and with several, almost reverence.

She was skilled in all the household duties of that time, which were much more complete than today, as they comprised spinning, weaving, and in her case, the results of the loom could be shaped into the required garments and the needle work deftly performed.

Her moral instructions were of the sternest stoical character. Shun all the vices and tell the truth whatever the consequences. She was very studious, always inclining to weighty literature; also possessing a fair talent for music, sketching and conversation as well. Samuel S., the oldest son of John and Elizabeth, in his earliest boyhood gave signs of the possession of a very diversified genius, comprehending many of the

sciences, prominently, metaphysics, philology and esthetics. In the science of delineation he was known to all in the neighborhood. The work-shop of a plow-maker stood near the little red school house in the north part of the town and on the street fronting the latter. Through the large folding doors could readily be observed what passed within, and frequently the hourly habits of the occupants.

One morning there appeared sketched on these doors, a drawing of what had transpired the previous night. The proprietor full sized with his most conspicuous physical peculiarities; a tumbler in his upraised hand, the jug sedately seated upon the bench, and his striker with equally distinguishable physical characteristics, with upturned eye grudgingly viewed the departure of the contents of the tumbler and anxiously awaiting his turn. For the remainder of the school term the young rogue found his safety by way of the fields. In later years, while following the cordwainer's trade, ever impelled by a love of study and research. he took up philosophy, chemistry, astronomy, meteorology, metallurgy, horology, hydrostatics, mathematics plain and mixed, in as confused a manner as here presented and as old treatises came to his hand, always seeking an old and exhaustive work containing between two covers all that was then known and perhaps all known today, published under the present mode of diverseness, each requiring as much expenditure of time without then obtaining the whole problem. This he ever contended. Therefore he had few books, and a

teacher, never, save a little time on the first rudiments of each study. He had the mechanical ability to make all the instruments he required for experiments in the various sciences mentioned and others, and when entering another to gain a livelihood, those needed in its pursuit, such as instruments for surveying, in which he was occupied in connection with watch and clock repairing, till the close of his life.

He always took great interest in music, was well informed in thorough base and its framework and could present it with great clearness, but its soul he never could express. Worthy of notice in this sketch is Addison, the sixth son of the family.

He suffered through life from poor health which confined him to a light vocation. Therefore he took up that of shoemaking, but not finding enough in it for mental occupation, and having viewed the external of a locomotive standing upon a railroad track, on his return home employed his leisure in an effort to make one. From the external his genius readily suggested what the interior must be. Procuring the necessary material soon a complete working model about six inches long, and a track about two feet in diameter, were finished. Tiring of his present condition he packed engine and track into a hand bag and departed for a locomotive factory at Lowell or Lawrence, immaterial to him which. Finding one he entered the counting room and applied for employment; being asked if he had been in the employ of a machine shop, he answered no but had a working model

and a track which he had made without help. This aroused the curiosity of the agent and he requested to see it. Soon it was steamed up and gracefully spinning around the track. The agent asked his terms which were his board till more could be paid. The agent desired him to follow and he would procure him a boarding place, which done he commenced work in the factory. At the end of a year he was receiving full pay and put upon finishing work. This continued till the second year of the war when an officer came into the factory inquiring if they had a hand capable of constructing an hydrostatic appliance of sufficient power to draw two foot bolts out of oak timber. The officer was from the Boston navy yard, where they had been trying to accomplish this work and had failed.

Addison was thought to be capable and was applied to; he said he would try if he could have his own way and do all the work himself.

This was complied with and within ten days the machine built, working with complete success. From thence, for a time, he was employed by the government adjusting monitor engines. Franklin, the seventh son, in order to give him a better opportunity to develop a musical talent and obtain instruction, at the age of thirteen was placed in an excellent family of a green grocer and in his employ. He was soon placed under instruction both in vocal music and the piano forte, with one of the best teachers in Boston to receive lessons until his twenty-fourth year, but no tuition was required of him the last four

years, as he served his teacher as solo singer. He graduated a professor of music. In the Spring of his twenty-fourth year he caught cold and from the effects of it, in the Fall was translated to a higher sphere, which he pre-eminently merited by his virtuous and moral life.

Enoch's family leaves male issue in the third generation of one, John's of one and the prospect of only one for the fourth. Then the inquiry may be raised, has Enoch's progeny been a failure? Yes, so far as continuing the name is concerned; but to the public weal certainly not, nor to themselves. For John's family, which is now prominently under consideration, a family of seven boys set afloat in the world without the helm even of an elementary education, amidst the temptations of their surroundings, not one of them fell into vicious habits, nor at any time in their lives were under the influence of intoxicants, or participants in the popular vices; but each and all striving to supply their deficiencies of early schooling, or for the love of study and knowledge and to be able to demonstrate it to themselves. Their lack of an ambition, seemingly to turn it to a financial account, would suggest that their acquisitions came too late in life, passed its ambitious period for public notoriety. Or may be, by virtue of an ante natural law, certainly in mechanics, how in other branches? Some were defective in metaphysics while others journeyed on to, if not through, occult science. Was it that a part adhered to a deductive process of investigation, to which the Scotch so pretinaciously cling? Or,

with others by the inductive method, either instinctively or otherwise, adopted even in boyhood?

#### NOTE.

Here let me add my own personal tribute to the character of Mr. Samuel MacKenzie. I have never felt that full justice has been done his memory. It is perhaps little wonder that in his later years when his mind had become broken by reason of the infirmities of old age, poor, old and solitary, that to the younger and more unthinking portion of the community he should have become somewhat of an object of merriment. Then he thought he could sing. It did seem strange, when there were so many things he could do, that he might almost be called a genius, that he should take more pride in his musical ability than in anything else. This was one of the strange contradictions of human nature.

But years ago, when in his prime, it has been told me that no man was more respected in town than Mr. Samuel MacKenzie. He represented Topsfield in the legislature in 1852 and was a member of the board of selectmen in 1853-4-5 and 6.

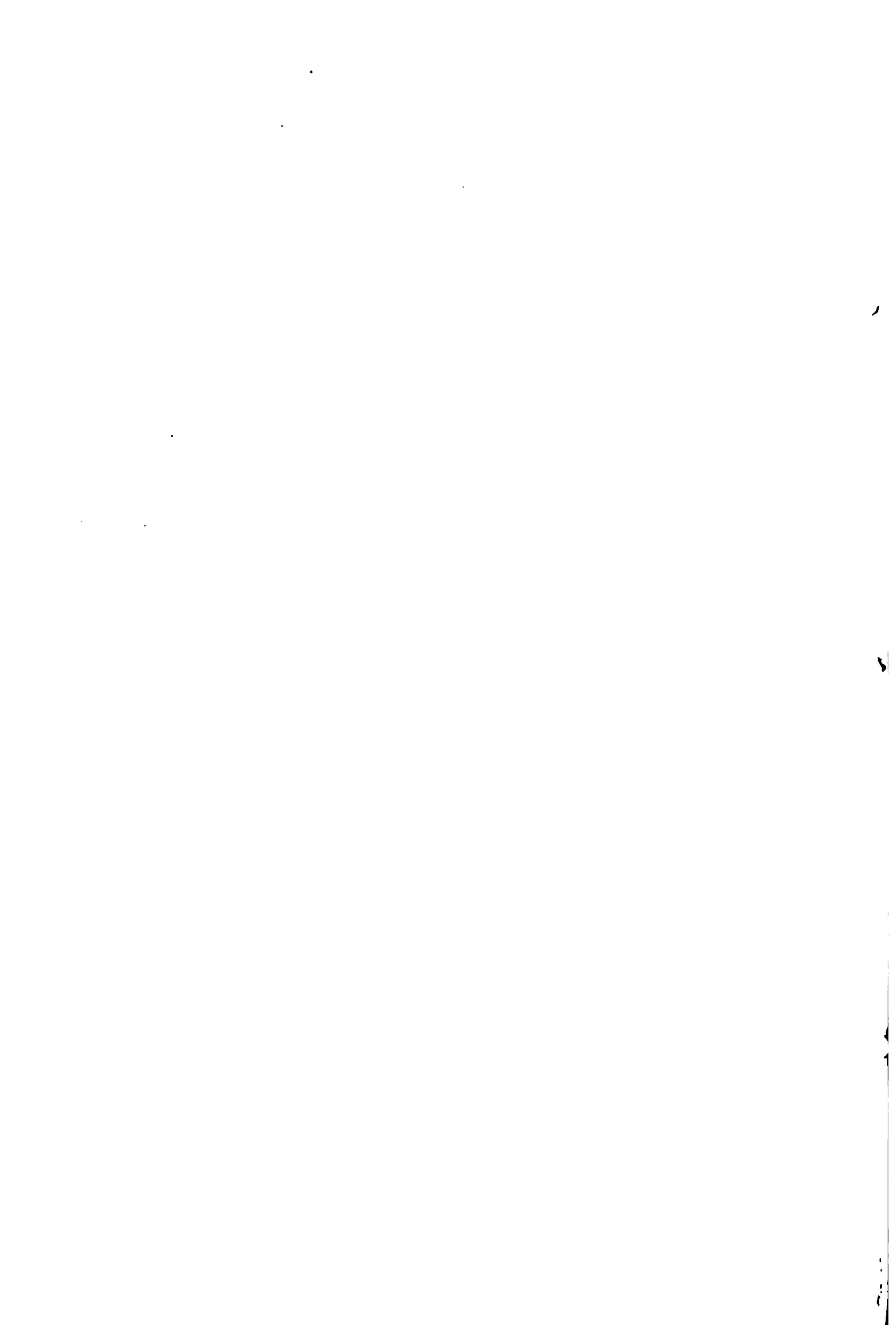
And as far as I personally knew him and have been able to ascertain; Topsfield was amply justified in her selection. Peculiarities he had indeed. His opinions often had the crudeness of the solitary student; there was also in his character a certain Scotch obstinacy and perversity of opinion, which was often most trying even to his friends. Nevertheless, he was, I believe in moral character and religious principle, far above the ordinary individual. I

find it difficult to put in words just not help it. To him there was no  
the impression which in this respect other course. It is a broad state-  
he always made upon me. "Except ment, not to be made lightly, yet I  
ye become as little children, ye can- think I am justified in saying that  
not enter the kingdom of heaven." Mr. Samuel MacKenzie never did a  
It was this childlikeness, this sim- mean thing. Surely a worthy de-  
plicity of integrity, which I felt in scendent of the Scottish High-  
him. I have never seen it in the landers.  
same degree in any other individual.  
He was guileless, honorable and  
high-minded, simply because he could

"Nowhere beats the heart so kindly  
As beneath the tartan plaid."

MARIETTA CLARK.





[From the HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS OF THE ESSEX INSTITUTE  
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## BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

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FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE MINISTRY OF THE REV. DANIEL BRECK,  
NOVEMBER 17, 1779, UNTIL THE DISMISSAL MAY 5, 1841,  
OF THE REV. JAMES F. MCEWEN.

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COMMUNICATED BY GEO. FRS. DOW.

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"On the 17th day of November, 1779, Came the Rev<sup>nd</sup> — Chandler of Rowley west Parish; and the Rev<sup>nd</sup> George Lesslie of Lyne Brook Parish in Ipswich. And the Rev<sup>nd</sup> Elizur Holyoake, Pastor of the first Parish in Boxford. And the Rev<sup>nd</sup> — Lothrop, Pastor of the Church of the Old North, (so call'd) in Boston, and the Rev<sup>nd</sup> John Treadwell Pastor of the first Church in Lynn, and the Rev<sup>nd</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Wadsworth Pastor of the first Parish in Danvers, with their Delagates. The Solemnity began with Prayer. Mr. Treadwell was the mouth of y<sup>e</sup> Congregation. Mr — Lothrop Preached the Sermon from the 2<sup>nd</sup> of Corinthians, 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter & the 5<sup>th</sup> verse :—for we Preach not our Selves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your Servents, for Jesus Sake. Mr Lesslie gave the Charge. Mr Holyoak gave the Right hand of fellowship. Mr Chandler Pray<sup>d</sup>. After wards a Suitable Hyme was Sung, and the Blessing given and the Solemnity Concluded."

**2 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.**

**BAPTISMS.**

Isaac Averel his Luke	Nov <sup>r</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup> , 1779.
It being the first Child y <sup>e</sup> Rev <sup>nd</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Breck Bap- tized after his Ordination		
Daniel Boardman his John	"	28,
A daughter of John Boardman by y <sup>e</sup> name of Eliza- beth	"	"
A child of Dan <sup>l</sup> Hood by y <sup>e</sup> name of Elizabeth	Feby	6, 1780.
A child of Jonathan Chapman of Linebrook, by y <sup>e</sup> name of Jonathan Perkins, and	April	23,
A child of Nathaniel Fisk by y <sup>e</sup> name of Lydia	"	"
A child of David Towne by y <sup>e</sup> name of David	"	30,
A child of Nathanael Averill, Jun <sup>r</sup> by y <sup>e</sup> name of Ammi	May	7,
A child of Stephen Towne by y <sup>e</sup> name of Hepsey	"	21,
A child of John Gould by y <sup>e</sup> name of David	June	18,
A child of John Perkins by y <sup>e</sup> name of John	July	2 <sup>d</sup> ,
A child of Eben <sup>r</sup> Goodhue by y <sup>e</sup> name of Samuel	"	9,
A child of Moses Conant by y <sup>e</sup> name of Lois	"	16,
A child of John Balch by the name of Rebekah Humphrey, a son of Israel Clark Jun <sup>r</sup>	August	20, " 27,
Abigail, a daughter of Samuel Fisk	Nov.	26,
James, a son of Eleazer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	Jany	7, 1781.
Sarah, daughter of Robert Balch	March	25,
Betty, daughter of Oliver Perkins	April	29,
Daniel, son of Ephraim Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	"	"
Susannah, daughter of Joseph Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	June	17,
Sarah, daughter of Jacob Towne	July	1 <sup>st</sup> ,
John, son of Will <sup>m</sup> Estie	August	12,
Ruth, daughter of Philemon Foster of y <sup>e</sup> Chh. in Linebrook	Sep <sup>r</sup>	2,
Moody, son of Dan <sup>l</sup> Clarke	"	16,
Bishop, son of Daniel Boardman	Nov.	11,
Mary, daughter of Nathanael Smith	"	18,
Becca, daughter of John Gould	Feby	10, 1782.
Lydia, daughter of Nathanael Averell	March	25,
Ebenezer, son of Nathanael Fisk	April	14,
Matte, daughter of Moses Conant of Linebrook	May	5,
Amos, a son &		
Hitte, a daughter of John Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	Aug <sup>t</sup>	4,
Sara, daughter of David Towne and		
Allen, a son &		
Polly, a daughter of Daniel Porter	Oct.	6,

**BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 3**

Stephen, a son of Step <sup>n</sup> Towne	Oct.	27, 1782.
Polly, a daughter &		
Daniel, a son of Daniel Dodge and also	Nov.	10,
Rebekah, daughter of Zaccheus Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	"	"
Anna, daughter of Zaccheus Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	March	2, 1783.
Martha, daughter of Joseph Cree and		
William, son of Philip McKensie	April	20,
Billy, son of Oliver Perkins, and		
Stephen, son of Nathanael Smith	May	4,
Rachel, daughter of Jacob Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	June	22,
Ruth, daughter of Ephraim Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	July	20,
Sally, daughter of Samuel Fisk	August	3,
Nabby &		
Rhoda, daughters of David Hobbs	"	17,
Jacob, son of Benja <sup>n</sup> Perley	Sep.	21,
Ruth, daughter of John Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	"	28,
Moses Perley, son of Daniel Clarke	Jan <sup>y</sup>	4, 1784.
Daniel, son of Daniel Boardman	"	18,
Daniel, son of Daniel Hood	Feb <sup>y</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> ,
Miriam, wife of Cap <sup>t</sup> Nehemiah Herrick, and their children in the following order :		
Polly, a daughter		
Hannah, a daughter		
Joseph, a son,		
Edy, a daughter		
Nehemiah, a son		
The above were baptized at Cap <sup>t</sup> Herrick's house on account of his wife's weak & declining state, She was at the same time received into full com- munion	Feb <sup>y</sup>	9,
Dorothy, daughter of Nathanael Averill	April	2,
Dilly, daughter of Robert Balch	May	16,
David, son to Nathana <sup>l</sup> Fisk	June	6,
John, son to John Dwinell	Agust	1 <sup>st</sup> ,
Nathanael, son to Philemon Foster of New Boston	Oct <sup>r</sup>	17,
Joseph, son to David Towne	Nov <sup>r</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> ,
Sara, Daughter to Eleazer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup>	"	28,
Elizabeth, Daughter to Zacheus Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>	March	20, 1785.
Mehitabel, daughter to Joseph Cree &		
Mehitabel daughter to Benja <sup>m</sup> Emmerson,	April	3 <sup>d</sup> ,
Samuel Son to Samuel Gould	"	24,
Elizabeth daughter to Philemon Foster of y <sup>e</sup> Chh. in Linebrook	May	22 <sup>d</sup> ,

**4 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.**

George, Son to David Hobbs	July	31, 1785.
Sara, Daughter to Joseph Towne and		
John Son to Philip McKensie	Aug <sup>t</sup>	21,
Jacob, Son to Oliver Perkins	Sep <sup>t</sup>	11,
John Son to John Gould	"	25,
Elijah Son to Stephen Towne and	Oct <sup>r</sup>	2 <sup>d</sup> ,
Polly daughter to Elisha Perkins		
Betsy, Daughter to Stephen Pearly and		
Molly Daughter to Daniel Gould	"	9,
Will <sup>m</sup> Son to Moses Conant of Linebrook	"	16,
Ebenezer, Son to Daniel Dodge	Nov.	6,
Mary, Daughter and		
Ezra, Son to Ezra Perkins	"	"
Jacob, Son to Jacob Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	"	"
Jere &		
Francis sons &		
Dorothy a daughter to Benj <sup>m</sup> Hood	"	20,
Benja <sup>m</sup> son to Benja <sup>m</sup> Emerson	"	27,
Nathaniel, son to Ezra Perkins	Jany	29, 1786.
Betsey, Daughter to Dan <sup>l</sup> Boardman	March	19,
Benjamin, son to Robert Perkins 3 <sup>d</sup>	"	"
Polly, Daughter to Abraham Hobbs	April	9,
Betsey, Daughter to Robert Balch	"	"
Moses, son to Nathan <sup>l</sup> Averill	June	26,
Mehitebel, daughter to Thomas Foster of Linebrook	Decem.	3,
Joseph, son to Joseph Towne		
at his house the child being dangerously sick	Feby	1, 1787.
Elizabeth, daughter to Daniel Breck	"	"
Lucy, daughter to Sam <sup>l</sup> Gould	March	11,
Fanny, daughter to Stephen Perley	"	18,
Nathan Ames &		
Abraham, sons to Abraham Foster Jun <sup>r</sup>	April	15,
Prisee, daughter to Stephen Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>		
by y <sup>e</sup> Revd M <sup>r</sup> Holyoke	June	10,
Luke, son to David Towne	"	24,
Nabby, Daughter to David Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	July	15,
Jacob, Daughter (son) to John Dwinnell	Sep <sup>r</sup>	30,
Huldah, Daughter to Zach <sup>s</sup> Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>		
By the Rev. Mr Frisbie	Nov.	11,
Mary, Daughter to Tho <sup>s</sup> Porter	Decem.	2,
Edward Allen Son to Ditto	Jany	27, 1788.
Daniel, Son to Daniel Breck	Febr <sup>y</sup>	17,
Nabby, Daughter to Abra <sup>m</sup> Foster Jun <sup>r</sup>	"	24,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 5

Daniel,	children of Aaron Kneeland	March 2, 1788.
Aaron,		
Mary,		
John,		
Moses,		
Ezra,		
Sarah, daughter to David Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>		" . 30,
Amos, son to Robert Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>		April 18,
Nehemiah, son to Aaron Kneeland		May 18,
Lydia Daughter to John Gould Jun <sup>r</sup>		July 6,
Susanna Daughter to abraham Hobbs		Oct. 12,

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May 26, 1788. "The Chh. met, & having attended to the renewal of the pastor's request for a dismission, consented to it, & voted an acceptance of what the Com'ttee had prepared as a recommendation. They then proceeded to the choice of Mr Jacob Kimball as Clerk, to record the votes of the Chh. and having in a very affectionate & solemn manner united in prayer, the pastor & brethren, parted."

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"Topsfield, November 12th, 1789. This day convened the Reverend Gentlemen before requested to sit in council, (Mr Oliver excepted) with the delegates of their churches, & ordained Mr Asahel Huntington to the pastoral office in this place.

Mr Nott [of Franklin, Conn.] made the introductory prayer—Mr Hart [of Preston, Conn.] Preached a sermon from Heb. 12<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses"—Mr Smith [of Middleton] made the consecrating prayer—Mr Cleaveland [of Ipswich] gave the charge—Mr Holyoke [of Boxford] gave the right hand of Fellowship—Mr Dana [of Ipswich] made the concluding prayer."

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Esther, daughter to Robert Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup> , 1790.
Zaccheus, son to Zaccheus Gould Jr	Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup> ,

## 6 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Sally, Daughter of Stephen Perley	Feb.	28 <sup>th</sup> , 1790.
Lucy, Daughter to Benj <sup>n</sup> Emerson, Boxford,	"	"
Lucy Kimball Perley, Daughter to Solomon Perley of Boxford offered for Baptism by Mr Jacob Kimball grandfather to y <sup>e</sup> child,	Oct <sup>r</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup> ,
Nathaniel, Son to Daniel Bordman	"	31 <sup>st</sup> ,
Thomas, son of Thomas Porter	Jan.	9 <sup>th</sup> , 1791.
John, a Son of Abraham Foster Jun <sup>r</sup>	Feb.	13 <sup>th</sup> ,
Asa, son of Aaron Kneeland	"	27 <sup>th</sup> ,
David, son of John Gould	March	27 <sup>th</sup> ,
David, son of David Perkins	Aug <sup>st</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup> ,
Allen, Son of Robert Balch	"	"
Jacob, son of John Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>	Jan.	1 <sup>st</sup> , 1792.
Hannah Potter, Daughter of Stephen Perkins	Aug <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> ,
Elijah, son of Thomas Porter	Oct <sup>r</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> ,
Ira, a son, &		
Sally, a Daughter of Daniel Porter	"	28 <sup>th</sup> ,
Humphrey, a son of Zac Gould Jr	"	"
A child of Daniel Bordmans	June	1793.
Samuel, Son of Aaron Kneeland		
Asa, son of Samuel Gould		
Patty, Daughter of John Gould		
Nehemiah, son of Nehemiah Cleaveland — — — of Stephen Perkins	Aug <sup>st</sup>	
Bradstreet, son of Benjamin Emerson	Sept.	
Cynthia Cummings, Daughter of y <sup>e</sup> Rev <sup>d</sup> Joseph Cummings Disceased By y <sup>e</sup> wife of Robert Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>		
John, Son of Ezra Perkins	Oct <sup>r</sup>	
John, Son of John Hood Jun <sup>r</sup>		
Samuel, Son of Aaron Conant		
Eunice, Daughter of Aaron Conant		
Aaron, Son of Aaron Conant		
Alethea, Daughter of Asahel Huntington	March	1794.
Nehemiah, Son of Robert Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	April	
Benjamin, Son of Jacob Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>		
John, Son of Zaccheus Gould	May	1795.
Ester, Daughter of Samuel Gould		
Stephen, Son of Stephen Perkins		
Mary, Daughter of Elisha Perkins		
Clarissa &		
Bestsy, Daughters of Cornelius Gould	Aug <sup>st</sup>	
Anna &		
Ruth, Twins, Daughters of John Hood Jr		

**BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 7**

Benjamin, Son of Joseph Cree	
Elisabeth, Daughter of Joseph Cree	
John, a son of Joseph Cree	
Nathaniel, Son of Aaron Conant	
Elisabeth, Daughter of Ezra Perkins	Feby 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1796.
John, Son of John Gould Jr	April 1 <sup>st</sup> ,
William Addle, Baptized, offered by Eliezer Lake	
Elisha, Son of Asahel Huntington	May 15 <sup>th</sup> ,
Betsy, Daughter of Stephen Perkins	Oct. 26 <sup>th</sup> ,
Humphry, Son of Zaccheus Gould	Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup> , 1797.
William, Son of Mr. Tenny	Oct <sup>r</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> ,
Betsey, Daughter of Robert Perkins Jr	Jany 14 <sup>th</sup> , 1798.
William Neal, Son of Nehemiah Cleaveland Esq	May 20 <sup>th</sup> ,
David, Son of John Hood Jr	
William Porter, Son of Aaron Kneeland	June
Asahel, Son of Asahel Huntington	August
Betsey, Daughter of Deac. John Gould	June 1799.
Joseph Porter, son of Cornelius Gould	July
Eleazer, Son of Zaccheus Gould	August 26 <sup>th</sup> ,
Sally, Daughter of Samuel Gould	Nov <sup>r</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> ,
Richard, a son of John Hood Jr	
Hezekiah, Son of Asahel Huntington	August 17 <sup>th</sup> , 1800.
Mercy, Daughter of David Perkins Jr	
Sarah, Daughter of Moses Averell deceased	Oct <sup>r</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> ,
Lydia } Phebe } Daughters of Moses Bradstreet	" 12 <sup>th</sup> ,
Cynthia }	
Mary, Daughter of John Hood Jr	Nov <sup>r</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup> ,
David } Nabby } Samuel } Children of David & Hitty Cummings March 29, 1801.	
Pamela } Sylvester } Hiram }	
Moses } Haffield } Children of Simon Gould Jr	May 31 <sup>st</sup> ,
Sally }	
Mary, Daughter of John Balch	
Charles } Polly } Wesley } Children of Thomas Perkins	Aug <sup>st</sup>
Irena } Hiram }	
Phebe } Anna } Daughters of John Batchelder Jr	Sept <sup>r</sup>

## 8 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

William, Son of Aaron Conant			
Cynthia, Daughter of Eli Brown	Oct <sup>r</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> ,	1801.
Eunice, Daughter of Moses Bradstreet			
Sarah, Daughter of John Balch	"	18 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Fanny, Daughter of Cornelius Gould	Nov.	1 <sup>st</sup> ,	
Eunice, Daughter of Zaccheus Gould	"	29 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Mary, Daughter of N. Cleaveland Esq <sup>r</sup>	May	9 <sup>th</sup> ,	1802.
Anna			
Lydia			
Sally			
Phebe			
Polly			
Robert, Son of Robert Lake	"	"	
Hannah, Daughter of Robert Lake	"	"	
Hitty			
Polly } Daughters of Jonas Merriam			August 15 <sup>th</sup> ,
Thomas Wendal Durant, a boy indented til of age to Jonas Merriam	"	"	
Mary Ann, Daughter of Aschel Huntington	Sept <sup>r</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Mrs. Lucy Friend &	Nov <sup>r</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Sally Friend, Daughter of Lucy	"	"	
Richard, Son of John Hood	April	3 <sup>d</sup> , 1803.	
Polly, Daughter of Sam <sup>l</sup> Gould	"	10 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Samuel White, Son of Simon Gould	June	12 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Jonas, Son of Jonas Merriam & Mehitable his Wife	"	"	
Ruthy			
Hezekiah Balch			
Rebecca			
Robert			
Mary			
Jane Searl, Daughter of Thom <sup>s</sup> Tenny			
John & Ebenezer } twin Sons of Nehemiah Cleaveland Esq <sup>r</sup>			March 12 <sup>th</sup> , [1804.]
Benjamin Conant, son of David Perkins	May	13 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Jacob Perkins, son of Jacob Towne 3 <sup>d</sup>	"	27 <sup>th</sup> ,	
John, a son of John Perkins	June	16 <sup>th</sup> , 1805.	
John Capen, Son of John Balch	"	23 <sup>d</sup> ,	
George, Son of John Hood	Oct <sup>r</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Elijah, Son of Simon Gould			Decemb <sup>r</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> ,
Elijah Perkins, Son of Zebulon Perkins	May	7 <sup>th</sup> ,	1806.
Elisha Lord, son of Nehemiah Cleaveland Esq <sup>r</sup>	Sept <sup>r</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> ,	
John, a son of John Wright deceased			
Mary, daughter of Jacob Towne 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Oct <sup>r</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup> ,	
Jonathan Knowlton, son of Thos Perkins Ju <sup>r</sup>	Jany	16 <sup>th</sup> ,	1807.
George, son of John Hood	July	5 <sup>th</sup> ,	

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 9

Nehemiah, son of John Balch	
Ezra, son of Jacob Towne Junior	June 12, 1808.
Thorndike Osgood, son of Simon Gould	Oct <sup>r</sup> 23 <sup>d</sup> ,
Lucy, Daughter of John Hood	Sept <sup>r</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> , 1809.
Baptized the Children of Daniel Wildes &	
Euni[c]e his Wife By the following names, viz :—	
Joshua	
Sally	
Thomas	
Israel	
Mehitable	Nov <sup>r</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> ,
William Porter, son of Amos Gallop	Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup> ,
Stephen Perkins, son of Edward Hammond Lately deceased	Sept <sup>r</sup> 1811.
Sarah Manning, adult, Daughter of John Manning esq. of Ipswich	Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup> , 1812.

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Reverend Asahel Huntington died April 22<sup>d</sup> 1813, aged 52 years, one month and five days, "after having served as the affectionate, faithful and beloved Pastor of the Church of Christ in Topsfield twenty two years and five months—his praise was in the Churches."

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Elisabeth	Children of Samuel Todd	July 17 <sup>th</sup> , 1815.
Lydia		
Samuel		
Alethea		
Louisa, adult daughter of Jonas Warren		Sept <sup>r</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup> , 1817..
Caleb Kimball, adult		Nov <sup>r</sup> 9 <sup>th</sup> ,
Sarah	Children of Jonas & Sarah Warren	" 23 <sup>d</sup> ,
Parker		
Harriet		
Charles		
Lucinda		
Adeline		
John Peabody jun. adult		May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 1818.
Widow Elisabeth Waite		
Augustine Symonds son of John Peabody jun.		
William	Children of Widow Elisabeth Waite	
Elizabeth		

## 10 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

**Lydia Bradstreet, daughter of Nehemiah & Lydia Perkins**

**John, son of Samuel and Lydia Todd** June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1817.

**Rebecca Gallup, adult** Nov<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup>, 1818.

Sarah	}	Children of Thomas Perkins jun. and	
Caroline		Sarah his wife	" "
Elisabeth			

**Thomas** by Rev<sup>d</sup> Isaac Bramin

Benjamin Franklin	}	Children of Benjamin and Re-	
Rebecca		becca Perkins	Aug. 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1819.
Lucy Ann			

---

"The town having concurred with the chh. in the appointment of the day for the ordination of Rodney Gove Dennis, an ecclesiastical Council met at Topsfield on Wednesday, Oct. 4, 1820, agreeably to letters missive from the chh. in Topsfield, requesting them to assist in ordaining Mr. Rodney Gove Dennis over them as their Pastor.

Present	Pastors	Delegates
Chh. in Hambleton, ————		Br. Whipple,
South Chh. Ipswich, Rev. Dr. Dana,		Br. Day,
First Chh. Do, Rev. David Kimball, Br. Moses Lord,		
First Chh. Danvers, Rev. Dr. Wadsworth, Br. Putnam,		
Sec. Chh. Rowley, Rev. Isaac Braman, Br. Adams,		
First Chh. Boxford, Rev. David Briggs, Br. Perley,		
Chh. in N. Ipswich,		

N. H.,	Rev. Richard Hall,	—————
Chh. in Newbury-		

port,	—————	Br. Pettengal,
Chh. in Middleton, ————		Br. Symonds,

The council being organized, the Rev. Joseph Dana, D.D., was chosen moderator, & the Rev. I. Braman, Scribe.

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 11

The moderator addressed the throne of grace. Documents were then read testifying the call from the chh. & people in Topsfield to Mr. Dennis, & his answer in the affirmative to the same. The candidate then being examined, it was voted unanimously, that the council are satisfied of the regularity of the proceedings of the chh. & Town relative to the settlement of Mr. D. & also with his qualifications as to piety & knowledge for the sacred ministry; & that they will proceed to ordain him as soon as may be over the chh. & people in this place.

Voted, That Rev. Mr. Braman make in. prayer.

Rev. Mr. Hall preach the sermon.

Rev. Dr. Dana make ordaining prayer.

Rev. Dr. Wadsworth [make] charge.

Rev. Mr. Briggs [give] Rt. Hand.

Rev. Mr. Kimball address the chh.

& conclude by prayer.

\* Voted, to proceed at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 oclock."

Calvin	Children of William & Elizabeth Conant	Nov. 19, 1820.
Elizabeth		
Ruth		
Louis		
Nchemiah, son of Nchemiah & Lydia Perkins,		April 29, 1821.
Mary, daughter of Rodney G. & Mary Dennis,		Jan. 20, 1822.
Mary, infant daughter of Saml & Lydia Todd,		March 3,
Mary Elizabeth, infant daughter of John & Mary Perkins,		
Abigail, infant daughter of Thomas & Sarah Perkins,		Nov. 10,
Phebe Wildes, infant daughter of Nchemiah & Lydia Perkins,		Dec. 22,
Theodosia Dennis, infant daughter of R. G. & M. P. Dennis,		May 18, 1823.
Elizabeth Ashby, infant daughter of Benja. & Rebecca Perkins,		June 1,

\* No further record appears of the proceedings of the ordination.

16 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Richard Phillips	on his own account	Jany	1, 1832.
Joseph Phillips	" "	"	"
Betsy Gould (Dau. of Joseph)	on her own account	"	"
Mary J. Phillips (Dau. of Richard)	" "	"	"
Sarah Phillips (Dau. of Richard)	" "	"	"
Mehi[t]able Balch (Dau. of Perley)	" "	"	"
Lydia Peabody (wife of John)	" "	"	"
Mary Cross	" "	"	"
Mary Munday (wife of W <sup>m</sup> )	" "	"	"
Elizabeth Gallup (wife of Israel)	" "	"	"
Lydia B. Emerson (widow)	" "	"	"
Harriet J. Emerson (Dau. of Widow L.)	on her own account	"	"
Lois R. Carter (wife of Sylvester)	on her own account	"	"
Lydia Bradstreet (Dau. of Capt. Dudley)	on her own account	"	"
Anstiss P. Balch (Dau. of David)	on her own account	"	"
Benjamin P. Adams on his own account		March	4,
Eunice B. Wells on her own account		"	"
Mary Ann Cummings (Daughter of Widow Susan C.)	on her own account	"	"
Sally M. Munday, Daughter of W <sup>m</sup> , her own account		"	"
Betsey Gould (Daughter of Andrew G.)	her own account	"	"
Benjamin Adams on his own account		May	6,
Lydia Smith	on her own account	"	"
Lucy M. Wilkins	" " " "	"	"
Elizabeth C. Wilkins	" " " "	"	"
Gustavus Dorman Pike on account of his parents			
Benj <sup>a</sup> . Jr. & Huldah Pike		July	1,
Abigail Kimball McEwen, on account of her parents (by adoption) Rev <sup>d</sup> Ja <sup>s</sup> . F. & Harriet C. McEwen		"	"
Frederick Perley on his own account		"	"
Sarah Abigail Perkins } on account of their mother			
David Perkins         } Hannah, wife of David P.		"	15,
Mary Ann Whiting Moore, on account of her mother			
Lois Moore the wife of Thomas M.		Sept.	16,
Edwin D. Sanborn on his own account		July	7, 1833.
Arner Averell on her own account		"	"
Benjamin Flavius Pike, on account of his parents			
Benj <sup>a</sup> Jr. & Huldah Pike		"	28,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 13

Edward Parker, infant son of Rev<sup>d</sup> Rodney G.  
Dennis and Mary P. Dennis was baptised by  
the father of the child

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1830.

Attest, N. CLEAVELAND, Clerk.

Rev. James F. McEwen formerly settled over the Church in Bridport, Vermont, was installed pastor of the Church in Topsfield on May 5, 1830. Nine churches were represented by pastor and delegate in the ecclesiastical council.

William Gunnison on his own account	Sept.	5, 1830.
Huldah Pike (wife of Benja. P. Jr.) her own account	"	"
Susan Cummings Jr. her own account	"	"
Alpheus Justus Pike &		
Alethina Philena Pike, on account of Huldah, wife of Benj <sup>a</sup> Pike Jr.	Octr.	24,
William Bradstreet on his own account	Nov <sup>r</sup>	7,
Ebenezer Peabody " " " "	"	"
Perley Balch Jr. " " " "	"	"
Benjamin Howe " " " "	"	"
Thomas Furgison " " " "	"	"
Abigail Wildes (wife of Humphrey W) her own account	"	"
Susan Cummings (widow) on her own account	"	"
Priscilla Bradstreet (widow) on her own account	"	"
Mary Perkins (Dau. of Elisha) on her own account	"	"
Huldah W. Perkins (Dau. of Elijah) on her own account	"	"
William Thomas Gunnison		
Elisha Washington Gunnison		
Mary Ann Gunnison		
John Harrington Gunnison		
Daniel Lungreen Gunnison		
Lydia Smith Gunnison		
Lucy Elizabeth Gunnison		
William Rea on his own account	Jan <sup>y</sup>	2, 1831.
Israel Rea Jr. " " " "	"	"

Children baptized  
on account of their  
father W<sup>m</sup> Gunnison Dec<sup>r</sup> 2,

**14 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.**

Dudley Perkins on his own account	Jan'y	2, 1831.
Amos Perkins Jr. " " " "	"	"
Lucy Peabody (Dau. of Widow Mercy) her own account	"	"
Mary Ann Peabody (Dau. same) her own account	"	"
Mary Cook her own account	"	"
Sarah Brown " " "	"	"
Eunice K. Adams (wife of Moody) her own account	"	"
Mary Ann Balch (wife of Nehemiah) her own account	"	"
Dolly Pike (Dau. of Benja.) her own account	"	"
Eunice Balch (Dau. of Perley) " " "	"	"
Abigail Perkins (Dau. of Elijah) " " "	"	"
Bartholomew Conant on his own account	March	6,
John Lamson " " " "	"	"
John Conant Jr. " " " "	"	"
Benjamin Pike Jr. " " " "	"	"
Nathaniel Wells " " " "	"	"
Humphrey Balch " " " "	"	"
Sarah Balch (wife of Perley) her own account	"	"
Mercy Rea (wife of John) " " "	"	"
Eunice Bradstreet (wife of W <sup>m</sup> ) her own account	"	"
Mercy Peabody (Dau. of Wid. Mercy) her own account	"	"
Elizabeth Peabody (Dau. of Wid. Mercy) her own account	"	"
Porter Bradstreet on his own account	May	1,
Nancy Towne (wife of Dan <sup>l</sup> ) her own account	"	"
Mehitable Br[a]dstreet (wife of Porter) her own account	"	"
Eunice Stiles her own account	"	"
Lucy Gile " " "	"	"
Eliza Bradstreet (Daughter of Dudley) her own account	"	"
Sarah Bradstreet (Daughter of Dudley) her own account	"	"
Ruth Rea (Daughter of Israel) her own account	"	"
Abigail Bradstreet (Daughter of William) her own account	"	"
Sarah Bradstreet (wife of John) her own account	July	3,
Asahel Huntington Todd, on account of Father Dea. Sam <sup>l</sup> Todd	"	17,
Caleb Kimball Perkins, on account of Parents Nathaniel & Judith Perkins	"	"

**BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 19**

**Minerva Achsah Pike on account of her parents**

**Benj<sup>a</sup> & Huldah Pike**

**February 14, 1841**

**Lucy Abby Peabody on account of her parents Ebenezer & Abigail Peabody**

**April 18,**

---

**1841. May 5. "The pastoral relation of the Rev<sup>d</sup> James F. McEwen to this chh. closed agreeably to the result of the Council of February last; the Parish having paid him his salary, & two hundred & fifty dollars of the sum awarded him, & he having relinquished one hundred dollars."**

**LONG ISLAND  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

## 16 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

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Betsy Gould (Dau. of Joseph)	on her own account	"	"
Mary J. Phillips (Dau. of Richard)	" "	"	"
Sarah Phillips (Dau. of Richard)	" "	"	"
Mehi[t]able Balch (Dau. of Perley)	" "	"	"
Lydia Peabody (wife of John)	" "	"	"
Mary Cross	" "	"	"
Mary Munday (wife of W <sup>m</sup> )	" "	"	"
Elizabeth Gallup (wife of Israel)	" "	"	"
Lydia B. Emerson (widow)	" "	"	"
Harriet J. Emerson (Dau. of Widow L.)	on her own account	"	"
Lois R. Carter (wife of Sylvester)	on her own account	"	"
Lydia Bradstreet (Dau. of Capt. Dudley)	on her own account	"	"
Anstiss P. Balch (Dau. of David)	on her own account	"	"
Benjamin P. Adams on his own account		March	4,
Eunice B. Wells on her own account		"	"
Mary Ann Cummings (Daughter of Widow Susan C.)	on her own account	"	"
Sally M. Munday, Daughter of W <sup>m</sup> , her own ac- count		"	"
Betsey Gould (Daughter of Andrew G.)	her own ac- count	"	"
Benjamin Adams on his own account		May	6,
Lydia Smith	on her own account	"	"
Lucy M. Wilkins	" " . " "	"	"
Elizabeth C. Wilkins	" " " "	"	"
Gustavus Dorman Pike on account of his parents			
Benj <sup>a</sup> . Jr. & Huldah Pike		July	1,
Abigail Kimball McEwen, on account of her parents (by adoption) Rev <sup>d</sup> Ja <sup>s</sup> . F. & Harriet C. Mc- Ewen		"	"
Frederick Perley on his own account		"	"
Sarah Abigail Perkins } on account of their mother David Perkins         } Hannah, wife of David P.		"	15,
Mary Ann Whiting Moore, on account of her mother Lois Moore the wife of Thomas M.		Septr.	16,
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Arner Averell on her own account		"	"
Benjamin Flavius Pike, on account of his parents			
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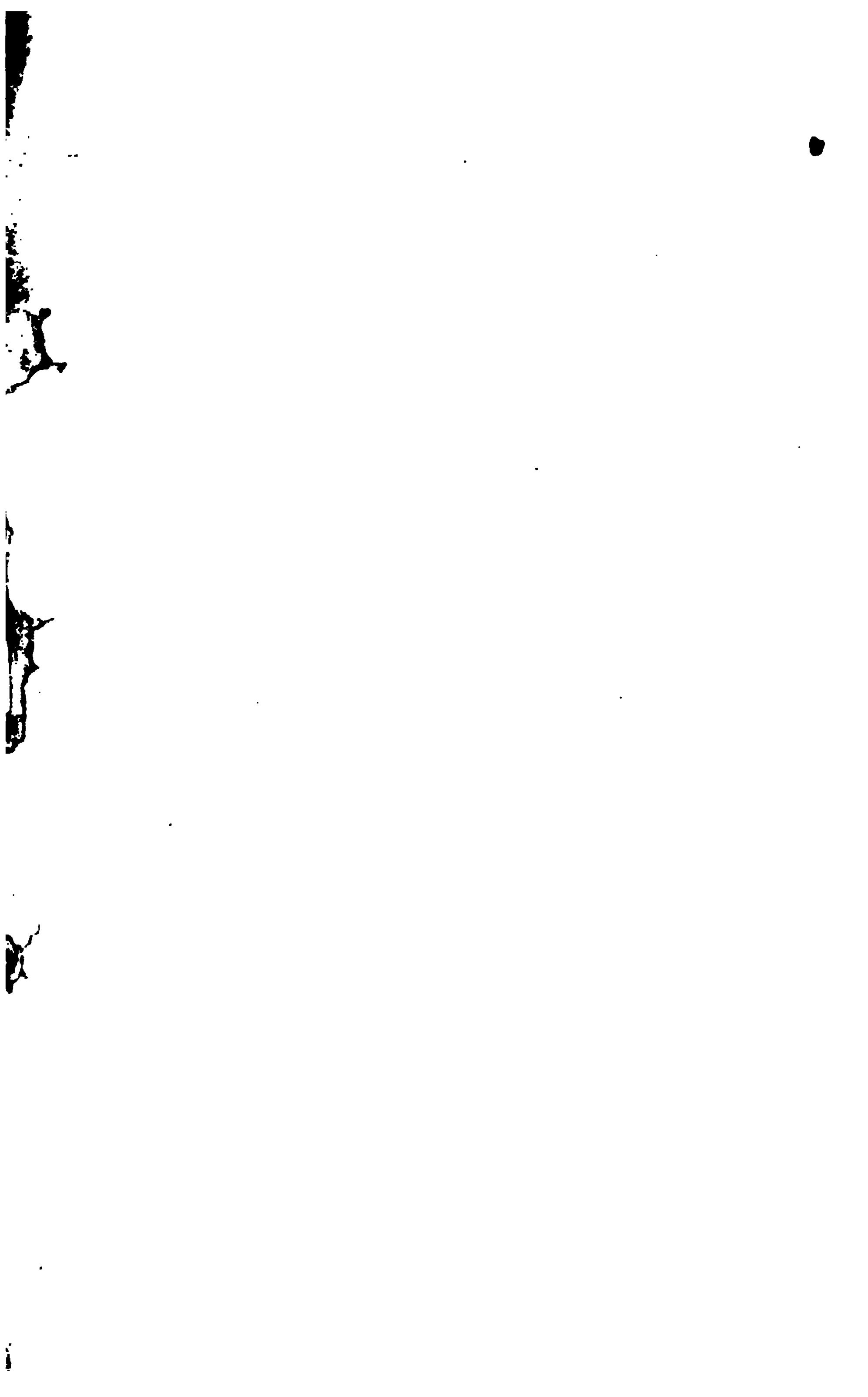
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LONG ISLAND  
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REV. ANSON MELOUD

**THE  
HISTORICAL  
COLLECTIONS  
OF THE  
TOPSFIELD  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.**

**VOL. III.**

**1897.**

**TOPSFIELD, MASS.:  
Published by the Society,  
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## Newspaper Items Relating to Topsfield.

COPIED BY GEO. FRS. DOW.

Valuable data relating to towns and individuals oftentimes finds its only record in the columns of the newspaper. The following items cover everything directly concerning Topsfield found in the files of the Salem newspapers from the first issue in 1768 to the year 1800.

---

### To be SOLD,

A piece of land in Topsfield containing about 7 acres bounded southeasterly on land laid out to Francis Cabot, southwesterly on land of Thomas Symonds and William Rogers, northwesterly on the highway and northeasterly by a wall. For further particulars enquire of Peter Frye, Esq., in Salem, or John Brown Merchant in Boston.

*Essex Gazette, Aug. 14, 1770.*

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Salem, May 28, 1771. Mr. Samuel Town, in crossing Topsfield River in a Canoe, last Saturday Se'nnight, fell over and was drowned. His Body was found the Monday following. He was between 60 & 70 Years of Age.

*Essex Gazette, May 28, 1771.*

---

Boston, Oct. 3, 1771. We learn from Topsfield that the copper-mine, some time since opened there, at 12 or 15 feet depth, affords such sam-

ples of fine, lively ore, extended in spatterings all over the pit, that experienced miners have declared the appearances preferable to any yet discovered in America.

[Mass. Spy].

*Essex Gazette, Oct. 8, 1771.*

---

Abigail, my wife, obstinately refusing to continue with me in Obedience to marriage Covenant, in that she refuses to bed and board with me; Therefore these are to forbid all Persons from harbouring and entertaining the said Abigail as they would avoid the Penalty of the Law: but if the said Abigail will return to her Husband, and behave agreeably in her marriage station, then I stand ready to forgive all former pardonable offences, as though they had never been: Furthermore, I the said Joseph forbid all Persons contracting any Debts with the said Abigail, for I will not pay one Farthing of any Debt contracted by her from the Date hereof.

Joseph Bradstreet,  
Topsfield, 1772, July 30th.

*Essex Gazette, Aug. 4, 1772.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, on Monday the 22d Instant, and was decently interred the Thursday following, Mrs. Sarah Fessenden Consort of William Fessenden, A. M. To reflect on the

amiable Deportment, the virtuous and blameless Life and Christian Conduct of the Deceased, must administer that Consolation to her sorrowful Relict, and all who were nearly concerned in her Life and Death, which can arise from no other source.

The memory of the Just is blessed.

*Essex Gazette, Mar. 30, 1773.*

A Woman at Topsfield, privately procured a Line, which she concealed till an opportunity offered for executing her Design; and on the 25th ult., she was found hanging by her Neck, dead, in her Chamber.

*Essex Gazette, June 26, 1773.*

#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN OF TOPSFIELD.

At a legal Town Meeting in Topsfield, May 18th, 1773.—Agreeable to an Article in the Warrant, the Town took under Consideration a Letter, a Pamphlet, and other Papers accompanying the same, sent to this Town by the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of Boston, containing a List of the Rights of the Colonists, and of this Province in particular; also a List of the Infringements and Violations of these Rights, for the Consideration of this Town. It being near the close of the Day, a Motion was made to chuse a Committee, to take under their Consideration the Letter, &c. and that the Meeting be adjourned, and the committee to make a draft in answer to said Letter (if they shall judge proper) and to lay the same before the Town at the adjournment of the said meeting.

The Town chose a Committee of

nine Persons for the Purpose aforesaid, and adjourned said meeting to the Eighth Day of June—June 8th, 1773, the Town being met together on the Adjournment, the Letter, Pamphlet, and other Papers being read and duly considered, the Committee then reported the following Draft in answer, &c.

That it is the opinion of this Town that the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, have truly and justly stated the Rights of the Colonists, and this Province in particular, as first their national Rights as men, secondly their Rights as Christians by the Laws of God, and thirdly their Rights as Subjects by the Constitution, all which Rights in the opinion of this town, the Colonists in general, and the Inhabitants of this Province in particular are and forever ought to be truly and justly intitled to, unless by their own Act, they forfeit them. It is also the opinion of this Town that the Infringements and Violations made on those Rights are truly and rightly stated, and that if such Violations and Infringements are still continued in, it will prove the Ruin of this Province, if not the whole Continent of America, and we fear the whole kingdom of Great Britian too; and we look upon it the Duty of this and every Town in this Province, in a legal way, to use our and their utmost eudeavors to prevent the execution of any and all unconstitutional Act or Acts that has been or that may hereafter be made to deprive us of any of our just Rights and Liberties, or to take away our Property from us, without our Consent, and that this Town in particular will be ready at all Times,

to join with their Brethren, in every legal way and manner, to defend the life and Person of his Majesty, and the Lives of our Brethren, his Majesty's loyal subjects, and in the same way to preserve and defend our own lawful Rights, Liberties, and Properties even to the last Extremity.

And that the Thanks of this Town be given to the Town of Boston, for their taking such early Care in stating the Rights of the Colonists, and making a Representation of the Infringements and Violations that are made of our just Rights and Liberties.

The Town voted to accept the above Report by a great majority, and then chose Capt. Samuel Smith, Capt. John Boardman, and Deacon John Gould a Committee for Correspondence with the Committee of Correspondence of Boston.

Also voted, That the Town clerk transmit an authenticated copy of the foregoing Votes to the Committee of Correspondence of Boston.

A true copy.

Attest. Elijah Porter,  
Town clerk.

*Essex Gazette, Sept. 21, 1773.*

---

ROBERT DAVIS Now rides as Carrier from Salem to Haverhill. He sets off from S. and E. Hall's Printing office at nine o'Clock every Tuesday Morning, and will carry Letters, Packets, and mail Bundles, at a reasonable Rate. Any person may be supplied by him with the Essex Gazette at the usual Price of 6s. 8d. per Annum, and 1s. for postage.

*Essex Gazette, July 19, 1774.*

**Topfield, July 15, 1774.**

Monday the 11th Instant died, and Yesterday was decently interred, the Reverend Mr. John Emerson, Pastor of the Church in this Town. He was a Native of the Town of Newbury, was educated at Harvard College, the first Honours of which he received in the year 1726. Soon after he went into the study of Divinity, and was settled in the pastoral office in this Place sometime in the Month of November, 1728; and continued a faithful Labourer in the Gospel Ministry upward of 45 Years.

His religious Sentiments were the same, for Substance, with those of the good old puritanic Christians who first planted the Gospel in New-England: And he ever lamented and bore his Testimony against, as a real Apostacy from the Spirit and Religion of our pious Ancestors, the Growth of Principles of a very different Cast and Tendency, which of late Years, have obtained such Footing in many Parts of the Land. His Deportment was pleasant yet serious such as shewed that the Religion he professed habitually influenced both his Heart and Life.

His Preaching was plain, close and searching: as the Points he principally pursued and mainly dwelt on, were such as related to experimental and practical Religion.

His sorrowful surviving Consort has in him, lost a tender husband; his Children, an affectionate Parent; and the People of his Charge a good Minister.

His last Illness was of the lingering kind, as consisting in a universal ill Habit of Body: which notwithstanding he sustained with great

**Patience and Submission to the divine Will: meeting his approaching Dissolution with the Calmness; Fortitude, and Resignation of a Christian.**

*Essex Gazette, July 26, 1774.*

---

**At a meeting of Delegates from every town in the county of Essex, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, held at IPSWICH, in said County, on the 6th and 7th days of September, 1774, viz**

(were present)

**For TOPSFIELD, Capt. Samuel Smith, Mr John Gould, Mr Enos Knight.**

**Various Resolves were passed, see newspaper account.**

*Essex Gazette, Sept. 13, 1774.*

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**At a meeting of the Alarm List and Training-Band of the first Foot Company in Topsfield, on the 6th of December, 1774, (agreeable to the Advice of the Provincial Congress) to choose officers for said Company. Voted, Mr Stephen Perkins, Captain: Mr Solomon Dodge, Lieutenant: Mr David Perkins, Ensign: and all other officers by a very large Majority, and upon a Declaration of their several choice there appeared great Satisfaction.**

*Essex Gazette Dec. 20, 1774.*

---

**At a Meeting of the Alarin List and Training Band of the Foot Company in Topsfield, on the 5th of December, 1774, to chuse Officers for the said Company (agreeable to the Advice of the Provincial Con-gress) Voted, Mr Stephen Perkins, Chairman: Voted, Mr Joseph Gould, Captain.**

**The Day being Spent a Motion was made for said Meeting to be adjourned to the next Morning, 9 o'clock: the Question was put, and passed in the affirmative & accordingly said meeting was adjourned to said Time. December 6, Said Alarm List and Training Band met according to adjournment, a Motion was made said Company to be divided into two distinct Companies: the Question was put and accordingly they were divided into two Companies: the first Company voted Mr Joseph Gould, Captain: Mr Samuel Cummings, Lieutenant: Mr Thomas Moore, Ensign: and all the other Officers by a great Majority. The second Company voted Mr Stephen Perkins, Captain: Mr Solomon Dodge Lieutenant: Mr David Perkins, Ensign: & all the other Officers by a great Majority.**

*Essex Gazette, Dec. 27, 1774.*

---

**ELIJAH PORTER was clerk to the Proprietors of Raymond, a township in Cumberland County, also of Hale's Town in New Hampshire. See advertisement of 20s. levy in**

*Essex Gazette, Jan. 24, 1775.*

---

**Last Saturday Evening died at Topsfield, Mr Benjamin Kimball late student at Harvard College Son of Mr Jacob Kimball of that Town. His Illness was a Fever and Dysentery in which he was exercised with great Pain, which he sustained with great Patience and remarkable submission to the Devine Will. His Hopes of eternal life were firm and strong to the very last which enabled him to entertain the Views of his**

Dissolution with a Calmness and Serenity of Mind which was truly surprising, as well as satisfying and comforting to all who conversed with him in his sickness.

*Essex Gazette, Sept. 7, 1775.*

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#### To BE SOLD.

A small farm in Topsfield, consisting of excellent land, with a new house on it, and a barn in good order. It will keep eight or ten cows through the year. For particulars, inquire of Nathaniel Richardson, near the Rev. Mr. Diman's meeting house in Salem, said Richardson has to sell, a few hogsheads of stone lime.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 1782.*

---

#### EXCISE TAX

Whereas, Jonathan Webster, Esqr: Collector of Excise for Essex County, has given notice, in the public print, to all licensed persons on spirituous liquors and teas, and owners of carriages, to meet at a certain time and place, to pay the duties thereon; in the several towns hereafter mentioned, viz:—Salem, Lynn, Danvers, Middleton, Topsfield and Boxford: and I the subscriber have attended at the time and place therein mentioned: and as there are many persons who have not settled their excise, this is to notify all such, that they call immediately at my house, or at Capt. Webb's, inn holder at Salem, where constant attendance will be given, as they would wish to avoid further trouble and expense.

Samuel Epes.

Deputy Collector.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 2, 1783.*

#### EXCISE TAX.

The Collector of Excise for the county of Essex gives notice, that he shall attend, by himself or deputies, in the several towns in said county to collect the duty on carriages, as follows, viz.—On the 17th at Mr Daniel Clarke's in Topsfield, from 3 to 6 P. M. All concerned are requested to attend that the collection may be completed.

Samuel Ward,  
Coll. Excise Essex County.  
Salem, 10th June 1783.

*Salem Gazette, June 12, 1783.*

---

#### ALL CONCERNED

are desired to take notice, That the Collector of Excise for Essex County will attend by himself or deputies in the several towns hereinafternamed, to receive the excise due the 15th May next, as follows.—On the 18th at Mr John Baker's in Topsfield, from 2 to 5 P. M.

All licensed and permitted persons in said county are desired to attend at the several places aforementioned, and settle their respective accounts.

Any who are delinquent in paying the tax on carriages are requested to settle the same and prevent further trouble and expense.

Samuel Ward,  
Coll. Excise Essex County.  
Salem, April 19, 1784.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 20, 1784.*

---

A gentleman at Topsfield has sent us the following account—

On Thursday the 3d inst. Mr Thomas Emerson, of Topsfield, invited a great number of his neighbours to assist him in raising a frame

for a barn, 80 feet long and 30 feet wide; which they proceeded in, until they had got up the body of the frame. They had got the beams on the scaffolds, and had put on one plate, and were getting on the other, which was the whole length of the frame, and the timber very heavy; when about forty feet in the middle of the frame, consisting of five posts, in the front, as many beams, and a scaffold of the same length, and the whole plate, with all the braces, girts and joists belonging thereto, almost instantly fell to the ground.

It was judged by the spectators, that there were about 30 men on that part of the frame, when it fell; a large number of whom were wounded, five or six badly, and one mortally, viz. Mr. Jeremiah Pearley, an inhabitant of the town: his wound was a fracture in the skull, which was supposed he received by falling on a stone that lay under the frame; he died in about twelve hours after he was wounded.

He was about 35 years of age, and has left a young and disconsolate widow to mourn his untimely fate.

*Salem Gazette, June 8, 1784.*

**NATHAN PEABODY, HAVERHILL Post RIDER.**

Informs the Publick, that he sets out from Boston for Haverhill on Thursdays, and from Haverhill to Salem on Mondays, and returns on Tuesdays. Those gentlemen who may please to entrust him with the conveyance of letters, etc., may depend upon their being delivered with punctuality and on very moderate terms.

*Salem Gazette, May 31, 1785.*

Two letters for Abr. Hobbs of Topsfield were at the Salem Post Office, Sept. 29, 1785.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 4, 1785.*

**DIED.** At Topsfield, on the 1st instant after a short illness, Mrs. Mary Gould, Wife of Daniel Gould, A. M. of that place. She has left a kind and tender Husband, with an infant Babe, together with a large circle of friends and acquaintances to lament her death. It may with truth be said, that her life was spent in one continual series of good economy, virtue, piety and benevolence.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 11, 1785.*

William Cleaveland, collector of excise for the West District of Essex County, advertised to be at the house of Mr John Baker in Topsfield, from 3 to 5 P. M. on the 18th of Nov. 1785.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 18, 1785.*

On Wednesday the 19th ult. the Rev. John Cleaveland jun. was ordained Pastor of the church in Stoneham. Rev. Daniel Breck of Topsfield, gave the Right Hand of Fellowship.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 1, 1785.*

**DIED.** At Topsfield, on Monday the 14th instant, Samuel Smith, Esq. aged 72.—So amiable and worthy a character as he evidently appeared, both in public and private, will render the memory of him ever precious. For a number of years he represented the town in the General Court, where he was esteemed a man of integrity

and uprightness. His usefulness among those with whom he was more immediately conversant, was eminent. He was a sincere friend to the liberties of his country, and a strenuous advocate for the doctrine of Christianity.

"The memory of the just is blessed."

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 22, 1785.*

The creditors of the estate of Mr Jacob Andrews late of Boxford, yeoman, were notified to prove their claims before the commissioners, Stephen Symonds and Benjamin Perley, on the last Tuesday of Nov. 1786, at the house of Samuel Hood, innholder, in Topsfield.

*Salem Mercury, Nov. 16, 1786.*

The subscribers appointed commissioners by the Hon. Benj. Greenleaf, Esq. Judge of Probate, etc. for the county of Essex, to receive and examine the claims of the several creditors to the estate of Mrs. SARAH GOULD, late of Topsfield, in said county, deceased, represented insolvent, and 6 months being allowed for that purpose—give notice, that they will attend said business, on the third Wednesday of this and the five following months, from 4 till 7 o'clock P. M. at Captain John Baker's, innholder in Topsfield aforesaid.

Stephen Symonds.

Daniel Bixby.

Topsfield, Oct. 18, 1787.

*Salem Mercury, Oct. 16 1787.*

 CINCINNATI!  
The Members of the Society of

Cincinnati, residing in the county of Essex, are requested to meet at Mr. Baker's tavern in Topsfield, on Wednesday the 21st instant at 2 o'clock P. M.

As business of some consequence, relative to the Society, will come before them, a general and punctual attendance is desired.

Frederick Frye.

Nov. 5th, 1797.

*Salem Mercury, Nov. 6, 1797.*

Mr. Israel Clark is chosen delegate to the Convention for Topsfield. (The State Convention to consider the new Federal Constitution.)

*Salem Mercury, Dec. 25, 1787.*

The collector of Excise advertised to be at the house of Capt. John Baker in Topsfield, May 2. 1788, from 3 to 4 o'clock P. M. to receive excise.

*Salem Mercury, Apr. 8, 1788.*

At the election held April 7, 1788, Topsfield voted as follows:—

Gov—Hancock 53. Gerry 13.

Lt. Gov—Lincoln 53. Warren 13.

*Salem Mercury, April 15, 1788.*

General orders issued by Maj. Gen. Jonathan Titcomb of the 2d Division from Newburyport, dated 26 Apr. 1788 shows that Ipswich, Topsfield and Wenham constituted the 2d regiment in the 2d brigade in the above said division.

*Salem Mercury, May 6, 1788.*

In an "extract of a letter from a gentleman at the new settlement of Muskingum (Ohio) to a person in

this town (Salem) dated July 20th 1788" is the following.

The Rev. Mr. Breck is here; and this day preached the first sermon that was ever delivered on the banks of the Muskingum, from Exodus xix. 5, 6. *Now, therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me, above all people; for all the earth is mine; and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation.*

*Salem Mercury, Sept. 9, 1788.*

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The Collector of Excise gave notice that he would be at Topsfield, at Samuel Hood's from 1 to 2 o'clock P. M. on Nov. 1st 1788. to collect excise.

*Salem Mercury, Oct 14, 1788.*

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On Wednesday last, Colonel Waide's regiment was reviewed at Ipswich by the Hon. Majorgeneral Titcomb. After the review, a well planned representation of the storming a fort was exhibited with much spirit and propriety. The fort was situated on a hill near the meeting-house, and defended by a party of infantry and Capt. Brown's horse. The assailants came up in two columns from different quarters; when the fort was summoned, the commander of which resolutely refused to surrender.

The battle then began; each body of the assailants was opposed by a party of horse, the former were repulsed, when three cheers resounded from the fort; they, however, returned to the attack, displayed from the hill, surrounded the fort, and carried

the works in an instant.

This performance gave great pleasure to many military characters who were spectators.

After this was finished, the line was formed, and the troops went through the firings with a regularity and precision which could not have been expected. The men were well dressed, well armed, and paid that strict attention to command which in a great measure made up for their want of experience, and gained them the approbation of their fellow citizens.

*Salem Mercury, Oct. 28, 1788.*

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#### NEXT MONDAY

'The 3d of November, at 1 o'clock, P. M. Will be Sold.

#### AT PUBLICK VENDUE.

A farm, consisting of about 90 acres, with a House and Barn thereon, — situated in the Southwestern part of TOPSFIELD, and belonging to Mr. JOHN REA. Sale to be on the premises. conditions of which will be made known at the time and place thereon. For further particulars, inquire of said JOHN REA, living on the premises.

Topsfield, Oct. 27, 1788.

*Salem Mercury, Oct. 28, 1788.*

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All persons indebted to or having demands on, the estate of JOSHUA TOWNE late of Topsfield, yeoman, deceased, are requested immediately to settle with

Jacob Towne, Admr.

Topsfield, Nov. 1st, 1788.

*Salem Mercury, Nov. 4, 1788.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Board-

man, relict of Capt. John Boardman, late of that place, deceased.

*Salem Mercury, Feb. 17, 1789.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Anna Hood, aged 24, wife of Mr. John Hood, jun.

*Salem Mercury, Sept. 22, 1789.*

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The Collector of Excise advertized to be at Saml Hood's Topsfield, from 1 to 2 o'clock, P. M. Nov. 2, 1789.

*Salem Mercury, Oct. 13, 1789.*

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All persons indebted to, or having demands on, the estate of JOSEPH TOWNE, late of Topsfield, yeoman, deceased, are requested to apply for a *speedy* settlement to

Martha Towne,  
*Adm<sup>x</sup>.*

Topsfield, Nov. 2, 1789.

*Salem Mercury, Nov. 3, 1789.*

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On Thursday last, the Rev. Mr. Huntington was ordained to the pastoral care of the church of Christ in Topsfield.

The Rev. Mr. Knott of Norwich (Connecticut) opened the solemnity with prayer; Rev. Mr. Hart of Preston (Connecticut) preached a sermon, from Heb. xii. 1—*Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses;* Rev. Mr. Smith of Middleton made the ordaining prayer; Rev. Mr. Cleave-land of Chebacco gave the charge; Rev. Mr. Dana of Ipswich made the concluding prayer; Rev. Mr. Holyoke of Boxford gave the right hand of fellowship.

*Salem Mercury, Nov. 17, 1789.*

Installed—at Hartland, Vermont, Rev. Mr. BRECK, late pastor of the church in Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 5, 1790.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Elizabeth Emerson, widow of the Rev. John Emerson, 81.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 6, 1790.*

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The Collector of Excise advertised to be at Hood's in Topsfield on May 5, 1790. from 3 to 4 P. M.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 20, 1790.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, suddenly, Mrs. Gould wife of Mr. Nathaniel Gould, aged 35.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 20, 1790.*

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The subscribers being appointed commissioners by the Hon. B. Greenleaf, Esq., Judge of Probate of Wills, etc., for the County of Essex, to receive and examine the claims of the several creditors of the estate of Mr. NATHANIEL BRAGG, late of Topsfield, in said County, house-wright, deceased—represented as insolvent; and 6 months from the 5th day of July instant being allowed the creditors to said estate to bring in and prove their claims, do hereby give notice that they will attend that business at the house of Capt. John Baker, inholder, in said Topsfield, on the last Monday of this and the five following months, from 4 to 6 o'clock in the afternoon of each day.

Daniel Bixby,  
John Merriam,  
Topsfield, July 7, 1790.  
*Salem Gazette, July 13, 1790.*

The Collector of Excise advertized to be at Baker's in Topsfield on Wednesday, Oct. 13, 1790 from 2 to 4 o'clock, P. M.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 5, 1790.*

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DIED. At Topsfield. Miss Hitty Kimball, aged 32, eldest daughter of Mr. Jacob Kimball.

*Salem Mercury, Nov. 23, 1790.*

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The County of Essex contains 57908 inhabitants, of these the town of Topsfield contains 780.

*Salem Mercury, Jan. 4, 1791.*

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#### By ORDER OF COURT.

To be sold at Public Vendue, on Thursday the 12th of May next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

So much of the Real Estate of Mr. Joshua Towne, late of Topsfield, deceased as will amount to about Seven Hundred Pounds—consisting of

TWO FARMS, situated in Topsfield, with two Dwelling-Houses and four Barns thereon, about 120 acres of Upland, a large quantity of Meadows, lying in Wenham, Topsfield and Danvers. Also, a small Wood Lot in Boxford, and two small pieces of Salt Marsh in Ipswich.

Sale to be on said farms.

Jacob Towne, jun., Admx.  
Topsfield, April 19, 1781.

*Salem Mercury, May 3, 1791.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, on the 6th inst. Mrs. LUCY CLEAVELAND, wife of Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., and eldest daughter of John Manning,

Esq., of Ipswich, aged 29 years.

Thro' life, Mrs. Cleaveland supported an amiable character. As a daughter and a wife, the domestic Virtues and Graces were her attendants. Her numerous relations and acquaintances sincerely lament the death of one so useful to her friends and so ornamental to Society.

*Salem Gazette, June 14, 1791.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. JACOB Averell, in the 89th year of his age. Besides a number of children, grandchildren, &c., who mourn the loss of Mr. Averell, he has left a wife, now in her 86th year, with whom he lived, in great conjugal affection, 63 years and 4 months.

*Salem Gazette, July 5, 1791.*

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#### FOR THE SALEM GAZETTE.

Mr. Cushing.

Some of your country readers are well pleased when they meet in your paper, with a question fitted to exercise their skill in figures, as in that way, they may agreeably pass a leisure hour, especially in a winter's evening. It is but seldom I have an opportunity of peeping into a newspaper, and when it happens, it is commonly a stale one, of 2 or 3 weeks back—but I lately met with your fresh Gazette of August 30th—may be I shan't see another for a month to come. In that of August 30th I met with a question proposed in the following words: "suppose that ten seconds transpire from the first descent of a stone into a Well to the time of the echo, or the first hearing of the sound, what must be the measure of the depth of that

Well?" Which, at first sight, struck me as a curious and entertaining question—not attending to the implied intention of it to puzzle some particular person, I and two or three of my neighbors have done our possibles to answer it, but we can do nothing with it, not being able to 'scry out what relation the transpiring of ten seconds from the first descent of the stone into the well, to the time of the first hearing the sound, alone, has to the depth of the well; and we suspect that the propounder of the question has imposed upon your readers, by propounding a question which he knew, for want of having some one or more circumstances being made known, which he has concealed, could never be answered. Be this as it may, I wish you would please so far as to indulge me as to inform the propounder of the above question, that I have in my garden a well reckoned as deep as any in the neighborhood. the bottom of which, with the addition of my arm's length to my well pole I never could reach by (I believe) a good many feet—and when he, by knowing only the length of the well-pole, being 20 feet and 1 inch exactly, shall determine the depth of my well, I and two or three of my neighbors, all of us able bodied men, will have another tug at his question—and exert our utmost endeavors, from the circumstances of ten seconds transpiring as in the question set forth, to produce an answer to it, however fruitless the attempt may prove.

#### AGRICOLA.

Topsfield, Sept. 6, 1791.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 13, 1791.*

#### FOR THE SALEM GAZETTE.

##### Mr. Cushing.

I have seen the question in your paper respecting a Grindstone—which proved very amusing and entertaining to several of us, and which as far as my skill in figures will allow. I have endeavored here to answer—which, if you have not a better, your giving it a place in your paper will oblige one who sometimes turns the Grindstone, & (as the common phraze is) sometimes holds on.

The whole diameter is 60 inches.

The first person wears it till the diameter is  $51 \frac{9}{10}$  inches—or about one hairs breadth less than 52 inches.

The second person wears it till the diameter is  $42 \frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The Third ditto till the diameter is 30 inches.

It then remains for the fourth person to wear it out, allowing nothing for the eye.

If the gentleman who proposed the above question will allow my answer to be nearly right, I will beg leave to ask, how much must each of the above named persons wear of the said Grindstone, that each may have an equal benefit of it?

Topsfield, 10th November.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 22, 1791.*

From Topographical Sketches of the County of Essex as published in the Massachusetts Magazine it appears that Topsfield was incorporated in 1650, contains 107 houses, 150 families and has a population numbering 780. It is an inland town devoted to the cultivation of the soil.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 13, 1792.*

## By ORDER OF COURT.

To be sold at Public Vendue, on Thursday the 12th day of April next at 1 o'clock P. M.

A FARM of about 60 acres, lying in the south-east of Topsfield, consisting of upland and meadow; together with a large Dwelling-House, two Barns, and other out buildings, thereon. Also about 3 acres of Salt Marsh, lying in Ipswich.—Sale to be at the above dwelling house.

Jacob Towne.

Topsfield, March 17, 1792.

*Salem Gazette, March 20, 1792.*

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## Mr. Printer,

The following list of Senators has been very generally approved by the landed interest—these are all gentlemen who have leisure to attend—ability to understand—and firmness to pursue, the true concerns of their country. Mr. G.'s [William Gray, jun.] name has been handed round the SEAPORTS—it is sincerely to be lamented that the very extensive *Commerce* that gentleman is engaged in, will by no means suffer him to attend to the important affairs of the *County*—and as the *Commercial* interest is more immediately the regulation of Congress—the best intended efforts, to that point, will be in a measure thrown away.

Topsfield, March 26, 1792.

For Governor—His Excellency John Hancock, or Hon. Francis Dana.

For Senator—Hon. Azor Orne, Samuel Holton, Samuel Phillips, Stephen Choate, Richard Ward, Esq., Theophilus Bradbury, Esq.

*Salem Gazette, March 27, 1792.*

## WILLIAM VANS,

Collector of the Carriage Taxes for the south district of Essex (Topsfield being one of the towns named) gave notice of readiness to receive such taxes at his house in Salem until the 20th of April.

*Salem Gazette, March 27, 1792.*

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DIED. At Andover, Mrs. Anna Cummings widow of Capt. Thomas Cummings of Topsfield, aged 73; her descendants are 15 children, 65 grand-children, and 14 great-grand-children.

*Salem Gazette, April 17, 1792.*

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## By ORDER OF COURT.

To be sold at Public Vendue on Thursday the 24th of May next, at 1 o'clock, P. M.

Part of the Real Estate of Mr. ISRAEL Clark, late of Topsfield, deceased, consisting of Pasturage and fresh meadow, lying in Topsfield, and Salt Marsh lying in Ipswich. Sale to be at the Dwelling House of said deceased, in Topsfield aforesaid.

ISRAEL CLARK, Admr.

Topsfield, April 23, 1792.

*Salem Gazette, April 24, 1792.*

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On Wednesday last, Mr. Francis Perley, jun., and Mr. Daniel Chapman jun. went out in a small canoe upon a pond in the vicinity [Prichard's Pond now known as Hood's Pond] with the intention of taking fish; when Mr. Perley, in throwing out the anchor, unfortunately overset the boat, which threw them both into the water; Mr. Chapman, who could not swim, fortunately fastened upon

the canoe, as it lay with the bottom upward, which sinking with his weight, bro't the water almost over his body; in that situation he called for help, while Mr. Perley, trusting to his skill in swimming, told his companion that he would make for the shore, which was upwards of 20 rods distant; but his strength failing, he sunk, and was drowned in the sight of his friend. The neighbors, at the fatal moment, were unhappily at a distance; but the cries of Mr. Chapman for assistance, were at length heard by Major Asa Perley, who immediately flew to his relief, stripped off his clothes and swam toward the canoe, tho he was in the 76th year of his age; but when he arrived he was unable to move the canoe, as it was fastened by the anchor; he therefore returned to the shore, when, with the help of a few, who were by this time collected, by means of a raft, Mr. Chapman was relieved from his distressful situation.

The body of Mr. Perley was then taken up, after it had lain in the water about two hours.

Every exertion was made to restore life to it, but all proved ineffectual.

Mr. Perley was in his 28th year, and was a person of strict integrity; he had the happiness of the universal esteem of his acquaintance, whose united testimony of his worth will sufficiently embalm his memory.

Boxford, May 26, 1792.

*Salem Gazette, June 5, 1792.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. REBECCA GOULD, wife of Mr. Zacheus Gould, aged 69. She has for many years been in poor health, and thro

all her indisposition has appeared to exercise Christian patience, and to have "*Joy and peace in believing*" in the rectitude of divine Government. She remained in her usual state of health till a few hours before her death, when being violently seized with pain, it suddenly terminated in her dissolution. Her husband mourns under the loss of an agreeable and tender companion, and society is deprived of a useful member. "*I was a stranger and ye took me in; an hungered and ye gave me meat; naked and ye clothed me!*" might with truth have been said to her by the number of twelve persons, whom she has taken in infancy and childhood, from among orphans and dependants, and brought up to mature age. Her expressions of kindness toward them were apparently no less than those which are excited by parental affection and tenderness; many of them still survive to mourn her loss, and who were, and still are, ready to "*arise up and call her blessed.*"

*Salem Gazette, June 5, 1792.*

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Notice is hereby given, that administration on the estate of Mrs. ANNA CUMMINGS, late of Topsfield, in the county of Essex, widow deceased, intestate, has been duly granted to the subscriber, who has given bonds according to law; and all persons indebted to, or having demands on said estate, are requested to apply for settlement to

NEHEMIAH CLEAVELAND, Admr.  
Topsfield, September 17, 1792.

*Salem Gazette. Sept. 18, 1792.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, Miss Priscilla

**Kimball, daughter of Mr. Jacob Kimball, aged 28.**

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 23, 1792.*

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DIED at Topsfield, on the 2d instant, Mr. Zacheus Gould, in the 76 year of his age. In justice to his memory, it may with truth be said, that, through the whole of his life, he was an example of seriousness, piety and devotion; he was possessed of a penetrating mind, and of a good judgement; punctual to his engagements, and in his dealings with mankind.

He represented the town in the General Court, in the most critical and trying period. He has been long employed in the town in its most important offices; the duties whereof he discharged with integrity, wisdom and ability.

He was friendly and obliging to all—the kind and tender husband,—sincere and agreeable to his friends—candid and forgiving to the inimical—a father to the fatherless—and a generous benefactor to the indigent and distressed—exemplary in his public walks and private conversation—a sincere lover of religion and of its upright professors—constant in his attendance on public and divine worship, and in all the ordinances of the gospel. He could with pleasure take a retrospective view of his life, and have the testimony of his conscience, that he had lived according to the precepts of the gospel; knowing that he had strictly adhered to them through life. This composed and calmed his mind under the apprehension of his approaching dissolution, and in the solemn and

important hour of death; and therefore could cheerfully and willingly resign his soul into the hands of a merciful Saviour and Redeemer, relying alone on his merits for justification before God the father. His exemplary virtues endeared him to a large and extensive circle of friends and acquaintance; the solemn gloom which hangs on their countenances fully evinces the regard they had for him, and the value of the man; and which manifests, that they are sensible of the loss they have sustained by his death. His virtues must embalm his memory more than *sons* and *daughters*—and the many who have been under his care, and have experienced his beneficence, must rise up and pronounce him blessed.

*“Why should we mourn departing friends,*

*Or shake at death’s alarms?*

*‘Tis but the voice that Jesus sends,  
To call us to his arms.’”*

Topsfield, Jan. 8th 1793.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 15, 1793.*

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*By order of the Court of Common Pleas.*

To be Sold at PUBLIC VENDUE; on THURSDAY the 23d day of May next, at 2 o’clock in the afternoon.

ABOUT 10 Acres of LAND, situate in Ipswich, being part of the Real Estate of Mr. ISRAEL CLARKE, late of Topsfield, deceased.

The sale to be at the dwelling house of the subscriber, in Topsfield aforesaid.

Israel Clarke, Admr.

Topsfield, April 19, 1793.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 23, 1793.*

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Ephraim Town, aged 68.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 17, 1793.*

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A most sorrowful accident took place on Thursday last;—Mr. ASA BRADSTREET, a young man belonging to Topsfield, was driving a team home from this town, with some boards in his wagon, and in Danvers, was observed by a person to be riding upon the boards, who spoke to him, and told him he thought his situation rather unsafe, this startled Mr. BRADSTREET, who is supposed to have been in a drowse, and he threw himself off, but fell so that both wheels passed over his head, and killed him instantly!

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 29, 1793.*

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KIMBALL'S Singing-Books are lodged at W. CARLETON's Book-Store, Salem, for Subscribers; where non-Subscribers may also purchase them.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 4, 1794.*

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All persons indebted to the estate of ASA BRADSTREET, late of Topsfield, shoemaker, deceased, are desired to exhibit their accounts—and all indebted, to make speedy payment.

ABIGAIL BRADSTREET, Admx.

Topsfield, Jan. 27, 1794.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 4, 1794.*

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### New Musick Book.

By J. KIMBALL.

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Just published, price 4-6 single, and 4-, by the dozen, and for sale by THOMAS & ANDREWS, the Publishers,

in Boston; and by WM. CARLETON, in Salem.

THE RURAL HARMONY, being an original musical composition, in three and four parts.—To which is prefixed, *An Introduction in the Art of Singing.* For the use of Singing Schools and Musical Societies.

By JACOB KIMBALL, jun. A. B.  
Subscribers, to whom it may be convenient, may receive their Books of W. CARLETON, in Salem.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 11, 1794.*

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By order of Court, to be Sold at Public Vendue, on Thursday the 10th of April next, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. So much of the Real Estate of JOSHUA TOWNE, late of Topsfield, deceased, as will raise the sum of about one hundred pounds.

Sale to be on the premises. For further particulars inquire of

JACOB TOWNE, jun. Admr.  
Topsfield, March 17, 1794.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 25, 1794.*

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### To BE SOLD

A valuable FARM, situated in Topsfield, about half a mile from the Meeting-House, lying partly on the road leading to Haverhill, and partly on the Ipswich road, consisting of about 150 acres, well wooded and watered, with a good Dwelling-House, Barn, &c. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber.

JOHN BAKER.

Topsfield, March 22, 1794.

N. B. Terms of payment may be made easy.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 8, 1794.*

**Letters in the Post-Office, Salem.****April 8, 1794.****TOPSFIELD—Jacob Kimball.*****Salem Gazette, Apr. 15, 1794.*****DIED. At Topsfield, Captain Joseph Cummings, 101.*****Salem Gazette, May 6, 1794.******By Order of Court, to be sold at Public Vendue on Thursday the 5th of June next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.*****So much of the Real Estate of JOSHUA TOWNE, late of Topsfield, deceased, as will raise the sum of about forty pounds; consisting of Meadow and Upland, and lying in said Topsfield.—Sale to be on the premises.****JACOB TOWNE, jun., Adm'r.*****Topsfield, May 12, 1794.******Salem Gazette, May 13, 1794.*****DIED. At Topsfield. Mr. John Cree, 64.*****Salem Gazette, June 10, 1794.*****Letters in the Post-Office,  
Salem.—June 23,  
Topsfield. Joseph Kilham (2),  
Jacob Kimball.*****Salem Gazette, June 24, 1794.*****DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Sarah Dorman, widow of Mr. Nathaniel Dorman, 51.*****Salem Gazette, July 1, 1794.*****To be Sold at Public Vendue, by order of Court, on Thursday the 31st day of July instant, at 1 o'clock, in****the afternoon.****A Piece of Swamp and Meadow; lying in Topsfield and Wenham, to the amount of eighteen pounds, for the payment of the debts of JOSHUA TOWNE, late of Topsfield, deceased —being part of the estate of said deceased: — Sale to be on the premises.****JACOB TOWNE, Admr.*****Topsfield, July 14, 1794.******Salem Gazette, July 22, 1794.*****"To be Sold at Public Vendue" with other lots of real estate "about 4 acres of Meadow, at Bunker's, so called, in the Town of Topsfield."****HANNAH FRIEND, Admx.****Wenham, March 16, 1795.*****Salem Gazette, March 17, 1795.*****MARRIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Daniel Porter of Danvers, to Miss Ruthey Mecom of that place.*****Salem Gazette, March 24, 1795.*****Caution to the Public.****On Saturday last, A— F— R of Topsfield, was detected in selling Veal with part of the Entrails concealed under the Kidney, in order to increase the weight of it. It is said this is not the first time the rogue has been guilty.*****Salem Gazette, Apr. 7, 1795.*****"To be sold at Public Vendue" with other lots of real estate "about 6 acres of mowing land in Topsfield, at Bunker's (so called)."****HANNAH FRIEND, Admx.****Wenham, April 10, 1795.*****Salem Gazette, Apr. 21, 1795.***

DIED. At Topsfield, Miss Lydia Kimball, daughter of Mr. Jacob Kimball, aged 25.

*Salem Gazette, May 5, 1795.*

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#### EXCISE ON CARRIAGES.

The Collector of Excise on Wheel Carriages for the Western District of the County of Essex (which included Topsfield) gave notice of his readiness to "receive the Entries and Duties" on the same according to act of Congress.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 4, 1795.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. CORNELIUS BALCH, aged 46.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 1, 1795.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, very suddenly, Mr. Abraham Foster, in the 77th year of his age.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 3, 1795.*

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#### FOR THE SALEM GAZETTE.

##### Fellow-Citizens,

The 1st Monday in April is fast approaching, when we are called upon by our happy Constitution to exercise one of the most important rights of Freemen, viz., the election of a First Magistrate. Here we will pause a moment for a few reflections, and consider what are the prerequisites for the Electors truly to exercise this right; and I believe it will be granted by every person of common sense, that knowledge in the Elector of the Person to be elected, is an essential prerequisite; but as the territory of this Commonwealth is so extensive, personal knowledge

in all the Electors of any one Man, cannot be expected. In the next place, what are the principal qualifications in the person to be elected? That they are, information, probity and integrity, I believe will be as readily granted—from thence it will follow, the person best known to most of the Electors, and possessing the aforesaid qualifications, is the only person in favour of whom the suffrages for a First Magistrate ought to be given—When these principles are sacredly adhered to, then it is, the Citizens shew themselves worthy the character of Freemen, and act conformably to the principle and spirit of our free Constitution, and when this is the real state of Republics, happy are the people—but when the Electors are led by cabals and factions, the citizens condition is truly deplorable.

Now personally to apply the premises Conformably to the foregoing propositions, no nomination for a First Magistrate, appears so eligible, as the *Honourable JUDGE SUMNER*—who for near twenty years has filled one of the most conspicuous and important offices in the Commonwealth, with the entire approbation and satisfaction of the citizens at large—When on the Bench, coolness and candour marked his temper, while Law and Justice governed his judgment. Add to these the knowledge he must have of the Commonwealth, by means of his Circuit travels; and of the qualifications of persons necessary for filling Offices, are such irresistible reasons, as will induce the free Electors of Essex, and the Commonwealth at large, to give him their fullest support; and

erty? If dogs are serviceable to the District of Maine, are they not equally so to farmers in other parts of the Commonwealth? Are there no other parts of the Commonwealth thinly inhabited, and abounding in game, but the District of Maine? Pray, sir, inform me if the act would not *go down* without exempting the District of Maine from its operation.

To obviate the effects of this hasty act, it is proposed here to vote a bounty of one dollar to every one who may be liable and shall actually pay a tax of one dollar for one dog. And as the act *very wisely* vests the money arising from this tax in the disposition of the towns—a town may doubtless appropriate it as it pleases; those, therefore, who pay a tax of one dollar, will be reimbursed, and the act restricted to its proper limits—a responsibility for damages.

Yours. Z.

*Topsfield, March 19. 1798.*

P. S. The act ostensibly is to prevent the ill consequences from canine infection. Pray, sir, are not the dogs in the District of Maine liable to this infection? In short, those who keep dogs as an article of luxury can or will pay this tax for them. The farmer, and others to whom dogs are really useful, cannot possibly afford to pay a tax so entirely disproportionate to any tax ever known to this country. It might perhaps have been usefully provided for in the act that young dogs should be wormed. It is said to be the case in England.

*Salem Gazette, March 20, 1798.*

---

MARRIED. At Topsfield, Mr.

NATH'L POTTER of Ipswich to Miss PHEBE SYMONDS.

*Salem Gazette, April 16, 1798.*

---

Letters at the Salem Post Office  
March 31, 1798.

Israel Clarke,	Topsfield
Asahel Huntington,	do
Jos. Towne,	do
Eben'r Towne,	do

*Salem Gazette, April 6, 1798.*

---

#### To BE SOLD.

A FARM in Topsfield, consisting of about 36 acres, mowing and tillage, with a good orchard; a good house and barn thereon. Also a Wood Lot in Boxford, of about 8 acres; and 6 or 7 acres of Swamp in Wenham.

For terms apply to  
THOMAS MOORE, *on the premises.*  
*Topsfield, July 6, 1798.*

*Salem Gazette, July 6, 1798.*

---

Letters at the Salem Post office  
June 30, 1798.

Rev. Asahel Huntington, Topsfield	
Polly Killam,	do
Doctor John Merriam,	do

*Salem Gazette, July 10, 1798.*

---

#### By Order of Court.

At the Dwelling House of Mrs. Olive Brown, in Boxford, on Wednesday the 29th day of August, next ensuing, at 1 o'clock, P. M., will be sold,

So much of the Real Estate of SAMUEL BROWN, late of Boxford, in the county of Essex, yeoman, deceased, as will amount to the sum of one thousand and seventeen dol-

lars. Said Estate is situated in Boxford and Topsfield and consists of the Homestead, containing about 70 acres, about 10 acres of Meadow near William Munnies, about 9 acres of Pasture near Jesse Perley's, and a Wood Lot in Cedar Swamp containing about 8 acres. Conditions of sale to be made known at the time and place aforesaid.

THOMAS PERLEY, Adm'r.

Boxford, July 13, 1898.

*Salem Gazette, July 10, 1798*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, on Wednesday last, Mr. JOHN BALCH, aged 56. At quarter past eleven o'clock in the forenoon, he was suddenly seized by a most violent spasmodic disorder, and after enduring much pain, expired at three in the afternoon, having been attended by an able physician. He was, when seized, in full health and strength, of which he possessed an uncommon share, being in stature 6 feet 4 inches. He was noted for his probity, integrity of heart, and exact punctuality in all his engagements; and he was attended to the grave by the largest concourse of friends and acquaintance ever before witnessed here. He has left a worthy and afflicted family to lament the loss of a most kind and tender husband, parent, brother and friend. A long and painful disease is generally, and seems naturally to have been, placed between life and death, to the end, perhaps, that death itself might be viewed as a friend by those who die, and by those left behind; but under such sudden and awful dispensations of Divine Providence, how much

must the suddenness of the shock add poignancy to the affliction! But the more awful the dispensations of God are, the stronger sense shall we be impressed with of our dependence on him; and the more able shall we be to turn this sense to our moral and spiritual advantage.

*Salem Gazette, July 13, 1798.*

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Last Sunday afternoon, after service, the Rev. Mr. HUNTINGTON, of Topsfield, after a handsome introductory address to his people, read the letter of General WASHINGTON, which has excited so much pleasure throughout the country, by declaring his acceptance of the command of the armies of the U. States.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 3, 1798.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Moses Averell, aged 29; who, in the various relations of life, exhibited an amiable succession of the social and christian virtues.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 7, 1798.*

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#### By order of Court.

Will be sold at Public Vendue, on Thursday, the 27th day of September next, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Real Estate of STEPHEN PERKINS, late of Topsfield, deceased; consisting of a Dwelling House and Barn, and about two acres of Land, situated near the meeting-house. Sale to be on the premises.

ROBERT PERKINS, jun. Admr.  
Topsfield, August 28, 1798.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 31, 1798.*

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ROBERT PERKINS, jun. Admr.  
Topsfield, August 28, 1798.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 31, 1798.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. John

Lefavour, aged 80.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 31, 1798.*

---

Letters remaining at Salem Post office Oct. 4, 1798.

Isaac Averill,	Topsfield.
Rebecca Ingalls,	"

*Salem Gazette. Oct. 9, 1798.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. Priscilla Averill, widow, 93, the oldest person in that town.

*Salem Gazette, May 28, 1799.*

---

#### RECRUITING SERVICE.

Capt. John Pynchon, 15th U. S. Infantry, gave notice to all who were inclined to enter the Infantry of the United States of the opening of a rendezvous at the house of Mr. J. Kimball, Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, June 18, 1799.*

---

#### 50 DOLLARS REWARD.

Whereas some person or persons on the night of the 11th inst. int., influenced by a malicious stinking spirit, perpetrated a most shameful deed, no less than conveying a large quantity of human excrement into a valuable well of water, near my Dwelling House. Any person or persons who will make discovery of the f---ng villain or villains who committed or was concerned in the above filthy transaction, so that he or they may be convicted thereof, shall receive the above reward.

Henry Bradstreet.

Topsfield, Oct. 29.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 29, 1799.*

#### TEN DOLLARS REWARD.

Lost, on Monday evening 'last at or within a mile of Putnam's Tavern in Danvers, on the Haverhill road, a black leather pocket book, containing a number of Bank Bills, amounting to upwards of 30 dollars and several private Notes of Hand. Whoever has found the same, and will deliver it with the contents to the subscriber, shall be entitled to the above reward.

John Balch.

N. B. All persons are cautioned against purchasing the said notes of hand.

Topsfield, Nov. 15.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 19, 1799.*

---

MARRIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Enos Lake to Miss Anna Gould: Mr. Philemon Foster, of Linebrook, to Miss Nabby Hobbs.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 14, 1800.*

---

Advertised letters at the Salem Post office, Mar. 31, 1800.

Eleazer Lake Topsfield.

Hannah Masury "

Ebenezer Town "

*Salem Gazette, April 11, 1800.*

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DIED. At Topsfield, on Monday last, after a long, distressing sickness, which she endured with patience and resignation, Mrs. ELIZABETH TOWNE, wife of Mr. JACOB TOWNE, aged 68.

*Salem Impartial Register,*  
May 19, 1800.

---

DIED. At sea, Mr. Daniel Perkins, second mate of the Franklin,

from Batavia—he was a native of Topsfield, and well known in his faithful attendance at the bar of the Sun Tavern for several years.

*Salem Gazette, May 23, 1800.*

—  
DIED. At Topsfield, Mrs. *Ruth Cree*, widow, aged 70.

*Salem Gazette, July 18, 1800.*

—  
DIED. At Topsfield, after a long illness, Mrs. *Sarah Towne*, widow of the late Mr. Ephraim Towne, aged 78.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 22, 1800.*

—  
DIED. At Topsfield, Sept. 20th, after a short illness, *Isaac Averell, jun. A. M.*, aged 33—Candidate for the Gospel Ministry. He had received a call for settlement from the church and society in Brookfield, south parish, and had given them an affirmative answer. The 1st day of October next was assigned for his ordination. His numerous acquaintance will long remember him as a man of friendship, sobriety and virtue; and by his death the people whose choice united in him as their servant in the Lord, are subjected to a very afflictive disappointment.  
“*O fallacom hominum spem fragil- emque fortunam.*”

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 23, 1800.*

—  
We are desired to mention, as a Candidate for the Fourth Middle District,

Mr. SYLVANUS WILLES, of Topsfield. This gentleman has had the advantage of a liberal education, has read law with the late Mr.

PYNCHON, and been regularly introduced to the practice thereof, but is at present occupied in agriculture, has for several years been a Representative in the General Court, is a man of good moral and political principals, and possesses that intelligence, firmness and integrity, which are essential in the character of a National Legislator. It is presumed that he will unite the federal suffrag- es of the District.

—  
[We hope the Federalists of the Fourth Middle District will agree on one Candidate before they enter warmly into the electioneering contest.]

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 21, 1800.*

—  
DIED. At Topsfield, Oct. 12, Miss *Catherine Willes*, aged 84—Whose amiable and benevolent deportment through life secured her the esteem and affection of her acquaint- ance, and entitled her to the honor- able appellation of “*a mother in Israel*,” though she had neither husband nor children.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 24, 1800.*

—  
Lost on Sunday evening last, between Topsfield Bridge and the Sun Tavern in Salem, a round Sable Tippet. Whoever has taken it up, and will return it to the printer, shall be handsomely rewarded.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 31, 1800.*

—  
DIED. At Sturbridge, Mr. *Eli Towne*, formerly of Topsfield, aged 69.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 21, 1800.*

## A Historical Sketch of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Topsfield.

By Mrs. CLARISSA GLAZIER

In that part of Topsfield now known as "The City" was the beginning of Methodism in this town. "The City" was then known as "Weston's City" from the fact that there were as many families by the name of Weston living there.

In May 1833, Charles Dodge and Ezra Glazier, both of Ipswich, at the earnest invitation of Sister Olive Clarke kindly consented to come to Topsfield and hold meetings in the North School house.

Charles Dodge was a brother of Manning Dodge of Ipswich, and Ezra Glazier was a native of New Hampshire, a baker by trade. He came to Ipswich and set up his business there.

Mrs. Israel Clarke, more familiarly known as "Aunt Olive," was a native of Topsfield, living on the road to Ipswich at what is now known as "Willowdale." Her maiden name was Hollington. She was very eccentric in her ways, tall and graceful in appearance; she usually wore a black silk calash, calico dress and a black silk handkerchief across her shoulders. She became interested in Methodism while visiting her sister in Lynn, and as there was no Methodist church in Topsfield she frequently rode to Ipswich with her neighbor, Mr. Amos Gould. Here she became acquainted with Mr. Dodge and Mr. Glazier, two earnest church workers.

By her invitation they came to

Topsfield and held a meeting in the North School-house in May, 1830. The building was then located in the field lying in the corner of the Ipswich road and the Booby's Featherbed road, so-called being perhaps a hundred feet from the corner.

We quote the words of Mr. Glazier: "On approaching the school-house we saw a few standing outside the house and remarked one to the other that we supposed those were all the people we would have to talk to on that day. However we were very much mistaken, for when we reached the door we saw that the room was well filled. After introducing ourselves we opened the service by singing, this was followed by prayer, then a portion of the scripture was read, followed by earnest exhortation, then singing of revival hymns." Mr. Glazier was a fine singer, and frequently started a hymn during the service appropriate to what had been said, which was taken up by the congregation. One of Mr. Glazier's favorites was, "The judgment day is rolling round." Near the close of the service, as a great interest was manifest, Mr. Glazier asked all those who wished to seek the Lord to rise. A young lady quietly arose and asked to be prayed for. At the end of the service a vote was taken to see how many were in favor of their coming the following Sunday. Every hand was raised. When the next

Sabbath came around a still larger number gathered in the school-house. Three meetings were held on that day. At the close of the third meeting a similar invitation was given as on the previous Sunday. In response to this invitation eleven arose and while standing the young lady who had asked to be prayed for on the previous Sunday arose and expressed the joys of her own salvation. At the close of the meeting held on the third Sabbath five more manifested a desire to follow Christ. On the following Sunday the school-house, which would seat about sixty persons, was so crowded that the brethren could hardly find standing room in which to address the people, of whom many were standing outside. Before separating that day some of those present said they would try to get permission to hold the meetings in Capt. John Adams' barn, which was large and commodious. This barn is now owned by Barney Mulligan. Permission was soon obtained and accordingly the barn was cleared and seats of rough boards provided for all who might come, and all agreed that it was a delightful place. As Mr. Glazier himself has said : "The swallows were feeding their young up in the top and singing to them, and down on the floor God was converting souls. How beautiful the thought that our dear Savior was born in a barn, and that He condescends to make this a place for redeemed souls."

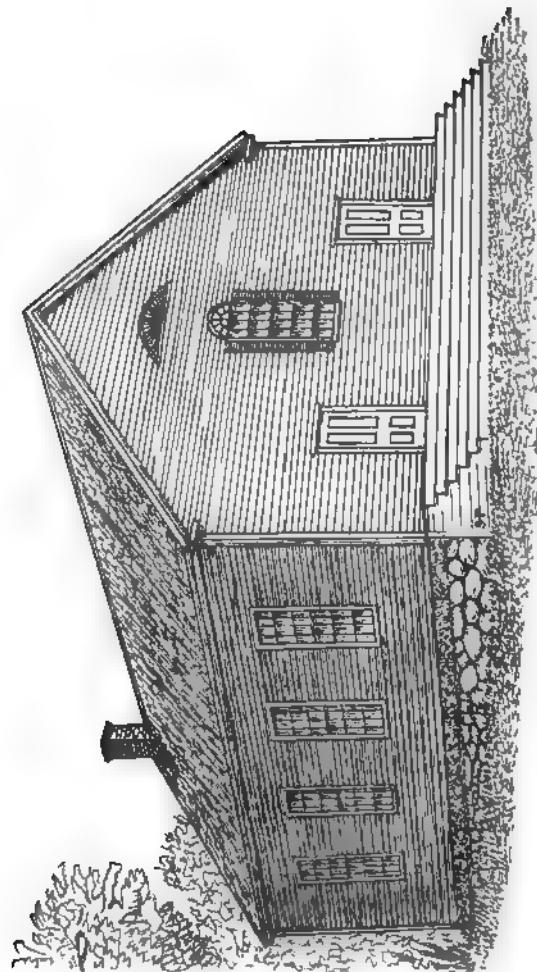
Deacon Adams, grandfather of Mrs. Susan Perkins, and father of Mr. John Adams, who owned the barn where the meetings were held, had been a deacon of the Tabernacle

Church in Salem for twenty-five years and was an earnest exhorter, proving of great help in the meetings. Rev. Jacob Sanborn of Ipswich came and preached occasionally during that summer. In haying time, as the barn was needed, they were compelled to returned to the school-house. A class meeting was organized and regular meetings held. The converts were put on six months' probation before uniting with the church as was customary. In August thirteen were baptized in the Ipswich river back of Captain Adams' barn. Joshua Wildes, Israel Wildes, Stephen Bartlett, David Hood, Phoebe Hood, Captain Israel Elliott, Mary Elliott, Mary Blaisdell, Celinda Averill and Clarissa Wildes were led into the water and immersed by Rev. Jacob Sanborn and three others were sprinkled while kneeling on the bank : Elizabeth Rust, Sally Adams and William Cummings. A large number of people gathered to witness the ceremony. The services consisted of singing, reading of scripture and prayer. The baptismal robes of the Ipswich Church were borrowed for the occasion. These were of a slate color with lead in the bottom of the skirt to prevent it floating on the surface of the water.

In September a young man, William Nansawen, was appointed to this charge by the presiding elder. He remained only a few weeks and was followed by Rev. Isaac U. Swinton, who remained until the following session of the Conference.

On Oct. 20, 1830 the society was organized into a Methodist Episcopal Church, called a branch of the Ipswich church, and had fifteen members.

METHODIST CHURCH IN 1840.



At the session of the New England Conference held in May, 1831, Rev. R. D. Easterbrook was appointed to this charge. He advocated the immediate erection of a church building and the members and friends entered heartily upon the work. Mr. Timothy Monroe of Lynn was engaged to build the house. He prepared the lumber and had it brought to Topsfield all ready to be put together. Land was given by Mr. Aaron Kneeland on the Newburyport turnpike. The frame of the building was raised Oct. 19, 1831 without the use of ardent spirits, which is very significant from the fact that at that time it was customary for the builders to be "strengthened" in their work by ardent spirits.

The building was forty feet square in size, having a plain pitch roof with chimney in the rear end. There were two doors at the front end opening directly into the audience room and located between them, high against the wall, was the pulpit built in the form of a semi-circle. At the rear were three raised pews or slips used by the singers. Two stoves, on either side and in front of the pulpit, were used to heat the room.

It was customary with the Methodist churches to hold in the Fall what was called "Four Day's meeting." In September the presiding elder appointed a camp-meeting here as there was, as yet, no church. Accordingly a maple grove belonging to Mr. John P. Peabody, on the old Ipswich road, was hired for four days for forty dollars. The underbrush was cleared away and large

trees felled for seats. A preacher's stand was erected and the different societies set up their tents about it in a circle. Societies came from Boston, Salem, Lynn, Newburyport and from many small towns in the district. They brought their tents, cooking utensils and other similar necessaries in large baggage wagons. The meetings were conducted by presiding elder Lambert, assisted by the ministers in the district. Father Merrill and Father Taylor were two of the most important.

During the meetings one of the sisters went into a trance and appeared dead. Some wished to give her restoratives but others said, "No, she will come out of it all right and tell us what she has seen," and it so happened that she came out shouting "Glory to God."

A feature of the meetings was the enthusiastic singing of the congregation; also the great interest in the ministers words shown by hearty responses of "Amen!" and "Glory to God!"

The meetings went on gloriously for four days and many persons were converted. They were largely attended by visitors from all the adjoining towns, for an open air meeting had never before been held in this vicinity. Notwithstanding the great success of the meetings it was a number of years before another "camp meeting" was held and then at Asbury Grove, Hamilton.

Having referred to the camp-meeting the dedication of the church is the next incident of note, it occurring Dec. 28, 1831. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev.

Enoch Mudge of Lynn, using for his text II Chron. 6: 18: "But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built!" Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. Jesse Fillmore of Salem. The house was crowded with an attentive audience. The interest manifested during the following year was good.

Rev. R. D. Easterbrook remained here one year. He was followed by Thomas Stetson, who removed from his appointment in June 1832. The only information which can be gained of his pastorate is the following brief notice in Zion's Herald:— "Our Zion here when seen by mortal eye appears quite feeble, and we are often ready to cry out with the prophet 'By whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small.' But when with an eye of faith we view the Lord as he is seen in all his works, a far more pleasant prospect opens before us. We have been cheered of late with some tokens of the Divine Presence in our meetings. Much more union prevails in the church, and a number of souls are enquiring the way to Zion. To God alone be all the glory."

At the session of Conference in 1833, Rev. David Culver was appointed to this charge.

Mr. Culver was the first married minister who was sent here by the Conference. They lived in the house where Miss Hattie Porter now lives, then owned by Mr. Jacob Towne, occupying two rooms, one on the lower floor, the other upstairs and at the opposite side of the house. The

rent was twenty dollars a year. A singular contrast to the accommodations now given our modern clergymen.

Mrs. Culver had a visage marked with intelligence. She wore a white satin cap crown bonnet, a drab-colored dress, a plain white shawl over her shoulders and always appeared singularly neat and plain. She was upright, graceful and remarkably active, and possessed a fund of anecdote that made her company agreeable as well as instructive. Zion's Herald of July 24, 1833 says the following of Mr. Culver's pastorate: "There is a general quickening in the church, and many appear to feel an unusual hungering and thirsting after righteousness and manifest that it is the longing desire of their souls to be filled with perfect love. There is also an increasing attention in the congregation to the preaching of the Word."

Mr. Culver remained one year and was followed by Rev. Benj. King, a licensed preacher from Lynn, who supplied a few weeks, when he asked to be removed. Mr. King was paid his expenses to and from Lynn but received nothing for his services as preacher. Rev. Charles S. McReading of Boston supplied until November. Previous to coming to Topsfield he was stationed in Salem, where, finding his people proud and arrogant, he preached them a sermon from the text found in Ecc. 10; 1: "Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour; so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour." The people resented it and he left at his own request. There being a vacancy at this church he came here.

His family consisted of a wife and one child. They occupied the same rooms as Mr. Culver. The society furnished their housekeeping goods, they being the first who were supplied with furniture by the society, and regularly received their Sunday morning breakfast of baked beans and brown bread hot from the brick oven of Mrs. Eunice Wildes.

In November Rev. Henry Skinner was sent here by the presiding elder; he remained until July 1835. During his pastorate many were converted. At this time the number of church members including probationers was twenty-three with a Sabbath school of between thirty and forty scholars. The society was then without a pastor till Jan. 1836 when the presiding elder appointed Rev. John E. Risley who remained till April. He was followed by Rev. S. E. Pike who remained till December. From December to July Rev. G. T. Poole a Lynn preacher supplied so acceptably that he was stationed here by the Conference for the following year. During his ministry eleven persons joined the church. In July 1838 Rev. G. W. Bates, brother to Lewis Bates, D. D., of Boston was appointed here. He was a young man of pleasing address, full of faith in God and generally beloved by all the people. During the first part of his ministry he decided to have a "Four Day's Revival Meeting," beginning Sept. 26th. Such an interest was manifested that the meetings were continued until mid-winter. About one hundred souls were converted of whom twenty-six united with the church, others joining the Congregationalists here, at Linebrook

and at Hamilton. The following is from Zion's Herald of Nov. 1838: "God is reviving his work in a most glorious manner in this place. Our church has been rising in spirituality; our meetings have been increasing in interest, and there have been awakenings and conversions among us for months past. Within a few days fifty persons have been brought from darkness to light and from the powers of Satan unto God. The aged, the middle-aged and the young have been converted; but the greater number are young persons and a large proportion young men, promising much usefulness to the Church. Twenty joined us on trial last Sunday and others are ready to do the same. Our church has been small from the beginning, numbering only thirty-four members last June. A few individuals have borne the burdens here for years. God is now adding to them grace and numbers. Of some large families in which there were no professors almost every member is converted to God. We hope this work will not cease until all are brought to the knowledge of the Truth. Our meetings continue very interesting. Praise is due our singers who are punctual in their attendance and perform their part of divine worship with spirit and with a good understanding. We feel very grateful also for the timely and faithful labors of Bros. Israel Washburn and George Knight, but all the glory belongs to God; for we were never more convinced that a work was His."

At the close of Mr. Bates' ministry July 1839 Rev. Chester Field was stationed here. During his pastorate,

as the congregation had come to be composed mainly of people from the village, it was decided to move the church to that part of the town. Accordingly it was started Jan. 9, 1840, Mr. Pearl Tapley of Tapleyville moving the building with fifty yoke of oxen. It followed this route: through Mr. Aaron Kneeland's field, across the road over Mr. Simonds' plain, now owned by Mr. Henderson, across the field between Boardman's and Simonds' over the meadow back of Mr. Batchelder's house, now owned by Mr. Cram, and through the field into the main road, then back of the houses of Abram Welch and Gilbert Balch. While it was going across the meadow back of Abram Welch's house the cable broke three times so that it was likely to have to stay there and some very uncharitable thoughts were expressed by some, that it was in a good place and they hoped it would have to stay there.

However it got along all right and was placed on land west of Main street near what is now the house of John B. Lake. The use of this land was donated by Mr. Richard Phillips. After moving the church it was repaired and painted for the first time at a cost of about two hundred dollars.

Rev. Mr. Field remaining here one year was followed by Rev. L. B. Griffin who held special revival services, as a result of which twenty-five persons joined the church on trial while fifty more were reported as attending class meetings.

In July 1841 Rev. Amos Walton was appointed to this charge. He lived in the house now occupied by E. Otis Gould. During his ministry several persons united with the

church and the Sunday school was in a flourishing condition. The next minister was Rev. H. C. Dunham, who was followed by Rev. I. J. P. Collyer. He remained two years, being the first minister to remain that length of time. He lived in the stone house at the top of Pingree's hill, which was torn down a few years ago, attending meetings twice a week at "The City," during his first year. He carried on revival services in the churches. As he entered the door and while taking off his overcoat he would commence to sing his favorite hymn, "Jerusalem, my happy home, name ever dear to me." During his second year he lived in Mr. Billy Emerson's house, now owned by Mr. Humphrey Balch. His successor, Rev. Moses Webster, was transferred from the Maine Conference and stationed here in May 1845. A very pleasant year was passed by pastor and people. He was followed by Rev. John Paulson, who remained one year. His successor was Rev. Wm. R. Stone, who remained two years.

In May 1849 Rev. Kinsman Atkinson was appointed to this field of labor, and entered upon his pastorate with a determination to build a parsonage. He bought land of Mr. Thomas Lane and commenced to erect a building at his own expense. Soon the trustees assumed the task but the work went on so slowly that the building was not completed until the close of Mr. Atkinson's second year. Like Moses of old he could look into but could not enter the promised home. Mr. Atkinson was born in Maine and was one of twelve children. He was graduated from

Harvard College in 1834 and for five years preached from Congregational pulpits, but in 1843 he changed his views of church government and joined the M. E. church. While stationed in town he hired the Topsfield Academy building and taught one term of eleven weeks. During his pastorate he also taught a winter term of school at Linebrook parish and at the East school in Topsfield.

Rev. John G. Carey, who was appointed here in April 1851, was the first minister to occupy the parsonage. He remained two years and took some steps toward erecting a more commodious church building. A building committee was appointed consisting of Andrew Gould, William Ray and Alfred Towne. The site selected was that upon which the church now stands. The land was bought of Mr. Humphrey Balch for four hundred dollars and the building now used was commenced. The architect was H. Graves of Boston, who being a Methodist gave his services. The carpenters were: Samuel Clarke, Daniel Willey, Isaiah M. Small, Cyrus Peabody, William Welch, Jacob Foster and John H. Potter. The painters were: A. Harden of Georgetown and James Henderson. Rev. Mr. Carey remained two years and was followed by Rev. A. F. Bailey who remained one year during which time the work of building continued.

In May 1854, Rev J. W. Bemis, transferred from the Vermont Conference, was stationed here.

The church structure being completed was dedicated June 14, 1854. Through Mr. Andrew Gould's efforts the bell had been procured

and placed in position. Mr. William Ray donated the pulpit, Mr. John Cary gave the Bible and hymn book, Mr. Stephen Bartlett gave the communion service. The Ladies' Society furnished the house.

On the morning of the dedication the presiding elder, Rev. L. Crowell, preached the sermon. Rev. Mr. Collyer preached in the afternoon.

Mention has been made of the gift of a pulpit. In this connection it is interesting to note that the pulpit in the old building was given to Mr. Stephen Bartlett and in time came into the possession of James Manning, who gave it to Hon. George B. Loring of Salem.

The old church building was sold to Isaiah M. Small, who built it over into a barn at his house long known as "High Rock Cottage," from the fact it is modeled after singer John W. Hutchinson's house at High Rock, Lynn. It is standing today, the double window in one end having occupied the place of honor behind the pulpit in the old days.

When the present church was built, there was no public hall in town of more than very moderate seating capacity, so the lower story of the building was fitted up for use as a public hall in connection with church uses. A platform was built and here for many years the annual town meeting was held and public gatherings of whatever nature. The outbreak of the Civil War saw many stirring meetings and when the project of erecting a Town Hall was canvassed, one town meeting was adjourned from Union Hall, as it has ever been

known, to the wide expanse of the "common," until the constables could line up the "yeas" and "nays" and duly count the same.

Rev. Mr. Bemis remained till September. Mr. Huyler, a local preacher, supplied till the next Conference. His successor, Rev John Smith, remained one year. In April 1856 Rev. Franklin Furber was stationed here, who said of his pastorate, "It was remarkable only for accomplishing nothing." His successor, Abraham Osgood, held revival services. Thirty were converted.

The next minister, Rev. George Sutherland, gathered the fruits of his predecessor's revival. Soon after his arrival he learned that a heavy debt of three thousand and three hundred dollars was resting upon the church. Having consulted with the trustees and found them favorable to any plan for cancelling the same, he raised sufficient money by subscription and church aid to cancel the debt. The church should ever hold him in grateful remembrance for this noble service.

The Sunday when Mr. Sutherland preached his last sermon was long remembered in town. At its close he publicly announced that the services of the choir would be no longer needed.

This was a dismissal of Samuel S. McKenzie, who had served as chorister for many years.

In the old church he had introduced the use of instruments in connection with the singing and his brass clarinet, the product of his ingenuity, shrill in tone and

ever the object of much interest, now rests on exhibition in the rooms of the Essex Institute at Salem. Other players were John Peabody on the clarinet, Benj. F. Adams on the bass viol, and sometimes Frederick Stiles who was very proficient on the double bass.

In April 1860, Rev. J. W. Lewis was appointed to this charge, passing a quiet year. His successor, Rev. A. D. Merrill, more familiarly known as "Father Merrill," was thought much of by the people. He tried to improve the parsonage grounds by planting trees and vines and raised sixty dollars' worth of strawberries on the parsonage land.

Rev. E. S. Snow, who was sent here next, was very well liked by the people. His successor, Rev. F. G. Morris, was a very talented preacher and remained two years. In April, when Mr. Lincoln was shot, services were held in the churches all over the country. Mr. Morris preached the funeral sermon in this town.

In 1866, Rev. George Chapman was stationed here. At the last quarterly conference of the year it was voted to ask the Bishop to leave Topsfield "to be supplied." The vote was passed because the brethren thought it would be impossible to pay a minister enough to support him. During the session of the Annual Conference, however, the people changed their minds and wrote the Bishop to try them one year more. Accordingly Rev. Wm. Bridges was sent here. In his words, "The budding and the blossoming was unpropitious but the fruit was good." During the first

half of his first year the average attendance at midweek meetings was five, but in the winter revival services were held, continuing for several months. In these meetings, which were held for one hundred successive evenings, Mr. Bridges was assisted by Mrs. Holway, his wife's mother, also by his own mother, both very talented women. Eighty-five persons joined the church on probation.

Near the close of his first year an organ of English make, costing nine hundred dollars, was purchased, and the pastor's salary raised to one thousand dollars. His successor, Rev. C. F. Chase, remained one year. During that time the church was painted at a cost of four hundred and fifty dollars.

The next minister, Rev. J. F. Mears, was liked by everyone. On August 3, 1870 it was decided to have a Sunday school picnic at a large grove at Groveland. About one hundred of the school attended and one hundred outsiders. The time was well enjoyed in sailing, singing, playing and swinging. About forty-four dollars were collected to defray the expenses of the children. The expenses were twenty-nine dollars and forty cents, leaving the balance of fourteen dollars and seventy-five cents, which the school voted to give toward erecting a new tent at Hamilton camp-ground. This among other excursions and picnics was largely due to the effort of Mr. C. J. P. Floyd. During Mr. Mears' pastorate one hundred and fifty dollars worth of books were added to the Sunday school library and new

furnaces costing three hundred dollars put into the church.

In 1872 Rev. S. A. Fuller received his appointment. His successor, Rev. G. W. Buzzell, worked hard amidst much discouragement. Some repairs, amounting to one hundred dollars, were made on the church. In April 1875, Rev. W. H. Meredith was sent here. Beginning with a watch night service near the close of his second year, he held special services every night either in the church or in the district school house until April. Quite a number of persons were converted, twenty-nine joining the church on probation. Rev. S. L. Rodgers succeeded him. He was followed by Rev. George H. Clarke. His pastorate is best described in his own words. "Upon coming to the place and learning that the spiritual thermometer was near freezing point and the estimate for minister's salary of the previous year was only one-half paid, I was well nigh discouraged. But the promises of God were my support. From the beginning of my labors here until now I have worked as hard as my strength would allow, and have been permitted by the blessing of God to accomplish a few things, but if in this life only we were to look for our reward, and if, while in one short itinerant resting place we are to look for all the results of our labor in that place, I should feel sad at the little accomplished. The thought, however, that some seed may yet spring up and yield an abundant harvest so that 'in the harvest both he that soweth and



METHODIST CHURCH IN 1897.

he that reaps may rejoice together' gives me some joy."

The 14th of June, the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the church was celebrated. Early in Mr. Clarke's second year some repairs were begun upon the church. The vestry was painted and kalso-mined, a new platform erected, the halls painted and the organ moved from the gallery to the right of the pulpit.

Beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 19 the semi-centennial of the church was celebrated, the services lasting one week. On Tuesday there was a grand concert of vocal and instrumental music, and reopening of the church. On Wednesday, semi-centennial day, several former pastors and members were present, also the presiding elder, L. Crowell, D. D. In the afternoon an excellent address was delivered by Dr. Crowell, prayer offered by Rev. Wm. Bridges and excellent music rendered by a select choir. A collation was served at five o'clock. In the evening brief speeches were made by former pastors and a social reunion enjoyed by the large number who had assembled at this time. A four days' meeting followed the anniversary. Rev. W. F. Mallalieu, D. D., of Chelsea, Rev. Geo. Whitaker of Cambridge, Rev. A. W. Baird of Groveland and Rev. S. F. Chase of Salem assisted in the afternoon and evening. Twelve persons were converted.

In February all debts to the amount of three hundred and twenty dollars were cancelled.

Mr. Clarke was returned for the third year.

Beginning on Dec. 14, 1881, an eight page paper, "The Topsfield Herald," was published on alternate Fridays until April 7th. One hundred and five dollars were realized from its sale.

On laying down the editorial quill Mr. Clark wrote as follows:—The time has come when, in accordance with the itinerant system of the Methodist Episcopal church, we move from this to some other field of labor. Our three years' stay in Topsfield has been exceedingly pleasant and we shall carry with us cheerful recollection of this delightful town, "beautiful for situation," and charming for a temporary country residence. The many kindnesses of the people, and tokens of esteem received from them, will not soon be forgotten.

In April 1882, Rev. A. C. Manson was appointed. Although he was very conscientious and did his best, he did not meet with very great success.

In April 1883, Rev. N. H. Martin was stationed here. During his ministry there was great depression in business causing many families to move out of town. He was followed by Rev. James S. Docking.

In 1887, Rev. C. H. Curnick was appointed, remaining two years. In Jan. 1888, he had a three weeks' revival meeting at which thirty were converted. During this year the church was painted on the inside, new shutters put in and the steeple was cut down and remodelled at a cost of six hundred dollars.

Rev. Theodore Haven followed him, staying for one year.

In April 1890, Rev. Charles Fuller

was stationed here. He was beloved by all and remained two years. Rev. Samuel Reid succeeded him, remaining one and one-half years.

From that time to the year 1896, the pulpit was supplied by students from the Theological School. Rev. Joseph Simpson was the first. While here he raised nearly two hundred dollars by church aid to repair the interior of the church.

The next student was Rev. John Reeder. He raised quite a sum of money for missionary purposes.

His successor was Rev. John B. Gough who was very quiet and retiring. The present pastor, Rev. I. Murray Mellish, is now entering upon his second year. Several new members have been added during his pastorate and the church still stands free from debt.



# The Life and Work of Rev. Anson McLoud.

By Miss HELEN E. PEABODY.

One scarcely realizes the meaning of biography till he begins to study and write the history of a life. Be that life long or short, complete or defective, fertile or barren, there is a sacredness about the individuality that makes one pause as he approaches the theme. The story of a life that originated with the infinite, possessing possibilities beyond human power to measure, and which only eternity can unfold, is not a subject to be carelessly or thoughtlessly treated.

The man whose life-work we are about to consider was a typical New Englander of the old school, who served his generation before the days of Smyth and the Second Probation, and who would have had little sympathy with the "New Departures" or "Higher Criticisms" had he been in active service today. He would have been slow to accept and teach the later theology, not for lack of a progressive spirit, for his mind was ever on the alert to gain the newest element of advance, but because of his eagerness to hold against any innovation the great essentials of the spiritual life, and could not accept anything that savored of unsoundness.

Though Rev. Anson McLoud was a representative New Englander in many of his strong points of character, he possessed some qualities of mind and heart that are rare in any period or clime. He was mortal and

finite, with the weaknesses of our common brotherhood, yet he seemed to stand on a higher plane and breath a purer atmosphere than most of his contemporaries. There was a something in his bearing that at once arrested the attention and commanded the respect of every one with whom he came in contact.

His life on earth began June 22d, 1813, in the town of East Hartland, Connecticut. Like many another "who has left his foot prints on the sands of time," he was reared on a farm, which in many ways was of decided advantage, laying for him the basis of a strong superstructure. It was his good fortune to be the son of parents who did not think it beneath their dignity to plow and reap and gather into barns. Not only many of our poets, who like Bryant could sing, "To him, who in the love of nature holds communion with her visible forms, she speaks a various language," but many of our greatest statesmen, scholars and divines spent their earliest years where unrestrained they could revel in Nature's wonderland, and drink of many a fountain denied the city bred youth. The schools give much, books give more, but the free, every day acquaintance with nature's glories is needed in life's great lessons for the best moral and physical development. The farm life of Mr. McLoud taught him to sympathize with those to whom he minis-

tered during a long pastorate, to enter into their labors, limitations, and trials, and share in the affairs of a rural neighborhood, as no other training could have done. That his trapeze was the hay loft, his dumb bells the scythe, his Swedish Movement the rake and pitchfork, accounted largely for the strong, vigorous, physical health it was his privilege to enjoy till his service as pastor was completed. Mr. McLoud never owned a horse, and his visits to a scattered community were always made on foot. He learned the nearer and more convenient ways over pasture and field, brook and meadow, and did not hesitate to remove stockings and shoes in order to ford a stream. He invariably walked to Boxford, Georgetown, Wenham and Danvers when making exchanges, and was ready for another tramp when Monday morning came. No summer or winter vacations relieved the strain of this long and important pastorate, and when once invited to accompany a party of friends as guest, on the opening of the Baltimore and Ohio R. R., he declined to leave his charge even for a short time when there seemed signs of a spiritual awakening.

Mr. McLoud's early opportunities for gaining an education were limited, which no doubt in some degree accounted for his so eagerly seizing and prizeing them when later presented, and also for his great desire to see all the young, who came under his influence, appreciate the value of an education. He never advocated a superficial, one-sided, half-finished development, but a symmetrical, all-round, mental, moral,

physical and spiritual education that would fit one for time and eternity.

At thirteen he entered a select school, where his mind began that unfolding which continued through his whole life, for he was a man who never ceased to grow. It was in this school that he received an inspiration to teach, which he subsequently did with acceptance for several years, indeed it might truthfully be said that he always taught, for he ever aimed to teach his people from the pulpit. During the years he directed the youthful mind in Connecticut, he boarded around, and often would he regale his intimate friends in after years with recitals of the varied and frequent ludicrous experiences of this eventful period of his life.

The college career of Mr. McLoud was spent at Yale, and his theological course was divided between Union and Andover. In 1841, when about to graduate from the latter institution, he made an agreement to preach in Candia, N. H. Mr. Blackmer, a fellow student, had promised to occupy the Topsfield pulpit on the same date, but for some reason felt disinclined to keep his engagement, and asked Mr. McLoud as a favor to go to Topsfield, which he did, Mr. Blackmer occupying the Candia pulpit. Thus was he introduced to our fathers, which proved to be the beginning of his long and only pastorate. The people heard him, were pleased, and called him to a ministry of twenty-seven years, closing in 1869. This was a time when pastoral engagements were not ephemeral, and although several times this leader could have gone to other fields

with increased salary, he felt he had a mission *in* Topsfield, and a message *to* Topsfield, and would not allow his conscience to be bruised by leaving. He believed he was called, and called to stay, and no temptation could swerve him from his purpose to do the specific work that he thought had been assigned him.

In the year of his settlement he married Miss Jane Cornish, who proved not only a companion, but a true helpmate in all his private and professional career. Gifted, like himself, with strong, scholarly instincts and religious convictions, she stood ready to aid him in any work for the benefit of the parish, and not only hand in hand, but heart with heart they trod the roadway of life, each an inspiration to the other, till 1883, when the beloved husband passed beyond the gates. Four children blessed this happy union, Willie, who went early to the home of rest, Helen, a mother of mature years, who has recently joined her father, and Malcolm and Norman, who still survive him.

From 1841-1869 was a well defined and marked period in the history of the Topsfield church, and Topsfield town as well, for whatever contributes to the welfare of the church is valuable to the town, as one cannot be a good churchman and a poor citizen. Religion and politics each have a distinct place in our life, but they are not so far divorced that they act in opposite directions. The Congregational church of Mr. McLoud's early ministry was composed of many strong families; of men and women of unusual fibre for a country town. Of more than ordi-

nary intelligence, character and mental ability, they were people who could think and act for themselves, and who would be led by, nor ministered to, by no man, who did not combine these qualities in a marked degree, and did not possess a strong personality.

The Historical Society does well to pause amid its researches to consider the character and influence of such families as the Huntingtons, Clevelands and Todds, the Peabodys, Balches and Adamses, the Perkinses, Wildeses and Townes, whose names are a benediction; and to whom the present generation owes a debt it never can discharge. They were a tower of strength to the pastor, a power in the town, and the community today are enjoying the result of their force. They believed in the church and prayer meeting and supported them by their presence, pockets, and words; they had faith in the Town Meeting and the 4th of March found them discharging their obligations in civil affairs, as the Wednesday evening and Sunday witnessed to their zeal in spiritual matters. Each one seems appointed to a specific place and work, one sowing, another reaping, and as we glance over this period of history it appears clear that it was the sphere of Mr. McLoud to bring to glad fruition the labors of his predecessors. The great religious interest of 1832 and 1833, resulted in 111 additions to the church, and the awakening of 1840, the year preceding Mr. McLoud's coming, brought 41 more into membership, so that when in 1841 Mr. McLoud assumed the charge, the church was approaching

its maximum number, though it slowly but constantly received additions for many years. Those years of marvelous religious interest would naturally be followed by a time of seeming retrograde, but if the ingathering was comparatively small, they must not be considered years of stagnation. It was a period of growth, education and harmonious development of the church, and when it learned that to live meant to go outside of itself.

It has already been said that this pastor was a true teacher, and it was this characteristic that reacted upon his parish. He instructed by constantly being an object lesson, because he was a student, and identified himself so closely with his people that he was able to direct their thoughts in the channels of his own thinking. He loved books, and as the years sped on, his attachment for them grew stronger and stronger, till he cherished the best as well known and well tried friends. To his little daughter, who was once treating a book harshly, he said, "Those who love books never hurt them." His knowledge of literature was phenomenal for a country pastor of those days, and the fact that he accumulated a private library of over fifteen hundred volumes, on a salary of never more than eight hundred dollars, shows he made many sacrifices to gratify his literary taste. He had the faculty of grasping an author's meaning without seeming effort, and easily assimilated the thoughts presented. To follow an author from step to step, to catch the thoughts and retain them, so that at the close of a book one can form a

symmetrical whole, is the mark of a well trained mind. No superficial, ordinary reader can do this. Says the Rev. Geo. L. Gleason when speaking on this subject: "In my visits to Topsfield during my theological course, it was always my custom and delight to spend one evening in the study of Mr. McLoud, examining and discussing the latest literary works, and the stimulus and guidance he afforded me were of inestimable value."

His pulpit style was didactic, forceful, rapid, concise, emphatic and clear. No one could fail to understand his meaning or misconstrue his intentions, for he was frank and sincere, and when his duty was clear, was fearless in rebuking a wrong. His gestures were few, but telling, and always left an impression of reserve force and unspent energy. His best efforts are universally conceded to have been done for special occasions. On Thanksgivings and Fasts he rose to the occasion, and his people expected and received a treat. It is to be regretted that his extreme modesty never permitted the publication of any of these discourses save one, that is now the property of this society. At the earnest solicitation of the leading spirits of the church the Thanksgiving sermon of 1852 was published and given free circulation in the town. It is a strong but calm review of the political situation, upon the text "The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places, yea, I have a goodly heritage." Though written for the exciting days attending the advent of the administration of Pres. Pierce, the principles he lays down and the comments he gives are as applicable

now as then, and would make delightful and instructive reading for an evening gathering. It was his habit to prepare series of sermons on special subjects, which drew large audiences of people from this and adjoining towns. One of these holding a firm place in the memory was a series of expository sermons on several books of the Bible. They were productions, had they been put in permanent form, that would have been to Scripture students of great value. Another series which were very popular, and drew people from so long a distance as Salem to hear them, related to church history, and which was, at the earnest solicitations of Mr. Huntington and Mr. Lord, placed in the archives of the Essex Institute and are now its property.

A strong, energetic, healthful, life-giving, missionary spirit marked this ministry from beginning to end. This pastor believed in the conversion of the world, and that it is the province of the church to send the message to the remotest lands. It was not simply a theory, but a belief that permeated his very soul and which took tangible form in doing. To him the world was an organic unit, and to keep one nation or people in ignorance of the glad tidings was comparable to the loss of a vital part of the body. He had that larger, later, nineteenth century conception of missions which is the result of close scrutiny of man's relation to divinity, and critical study of the whole scheme of redemption. Of such cast were Judson, Goodell, and the broad-minded men that have carried the interests of the American Board for nearly a century. It was

his grasp of the oneness of the human race that led him, like our beloved Whittier, to voice the New England heart in advocating universal human freedom, and although he did not leave his sentiments embodied in imperishable verse, he did impress them on immortal lives. If one class of meetings stand out more prominently in the memory of this era than others, it was the Missionary Concert. Regularly, once a month, young and old came together for instruction and impetus, and "Among the many pictures, that hang on memory's wall," is the reverend pastor with pointer in hand and maps before him, giving the geography and missionary history of every land in turn. He never came to his task unprepared, waiting for a chance remark to give a suggestion, but he planned for every concert and prayer meeting conscientiously, and taught and encouraged the church to take up and discuss the subjects presented, which resulted in few silent moments.

Rev. Anson McLoud was gifted with strong personal characteristics, which were apparent to every one with whom he came in contact. To the stranger he seemed stern and unapproachable, but when once his confidence had been gained, he was free, social and winning, for never one lived with a kindlier heart or more lovable disposition. In speaking of him in this connection, one who knew him best quoted Cicero's opinion of Pompey: "Those that lived with him the longest were the happiest," and added "Those happy days when I was free to go to his home, wore away so fast without my think-

ing they would ever end."

In the sick room he was always a welcome visitor. One who was often the recipient of these pastoral calls has recently said, "I anxiously waited for his footstep, knowing he would have some word of cheer." Never did he leave the sick or afflicted without leaving his impress behind. He taught great lessons when making these visits, as well as from the pulpit, and it was often done in such a delicate, indirect manner, that the effect of the lesson would be intensified. One that came under his care was sick so long that she was discouraged and inclined to fret, and was well nigh the "Slough of Despond." After listening a suitable time to the tale of woe, he said: "I'll tell you a story I have recently heard if you will promise that you will not take it to yourself." Then he related an incident of an officer in the Rebel service, who was bemoaning his lot since his capture by the Yankees. He was swearing vociferously, when a Quaker approached him and said: "Swear, on my friend, swear on, for you can never enter heaven with all that in your heart." It is needless to say a personal application was made, and the lesson learned.

Extremely careful of others' feelings and desirous to avoid being a stone of stumbling, he often took steps most people would consider unnecessary. In the congregation was a regular attendant upon public worship, though not a member of the church, who possessed some very strong peculiarities. Mr. McLoud honored him, loved him, understood him, and always was very careful

never to strike against his sharp points. His greatest singularity was an avowed determination never to hear a Methodist preacher. It was the custom to exchange pulpits annually, and when the time came, it was the invariable habit of Mr. McLoud to walk to the outskirts of the town and inform Mr. S. of his intention, the Saturday preceding, so the brother could make arrangements for worship elsewhere. On one occasion, by some mischance, the notification was overlooked, and Mr. S. walked down the long aisle to the side of the pulpit. Discovering the intruder, he turned and quickly retraced his steps, much to the merriment of those that understood the situation. Upon apology Mr. McLoud was pardoned, but to his dying day Mr. S. never listened to a follower of Wesley.

Mr. McLoud was very careful of his statements when questioned. When in doubt, he would say "I am not quite sure of that. I shall have to think that over before I give an opinion." The same prudence extended to his financial affairs and domestic life. By strict economy and careful management, he gave each of his children a good, substantial education, built a comfortable residence, gave liberally to missionary enterprises, helped many of the poor in his parish privately, accumulated a large library and always kept out of debt.

A keen sense of humor pervaded his nature, and a quickness to recognize and appreciate true wit, and that it has a legitimate place in life, made him an agreeable companion when one had learned to know him.

In 1881, when the writer felt she was reading before a critical audience, "Mary had a little Lamb," she was gratified and encouraged when spying the grave and dignified pastor shaking with merriment, showing he recognized in the characters portrayed, the quick-witted Irishman, and the slow moving Dutchman. When speaking of him, Mr. Sewall of Lynn once said: "He is the life of our association."

Mr. McLoud's ideals were lofty, but the standard he set for others, he followed closely himself. Charity and generosity were prominent in his make up, as many a home of penury could testify, though he never allowed his left hand to know what his right hand did. His influence was not confined to the limits of the pulpit, for he was a citizen as well as a pastor. Duty and privilege were synonymous terms with him, and he considered it both, to cast his vote for the party that had the interests of state at heart.

The educational matters of the town were of great moment to him, as they are to all thinking and progressive men. When serving on the school committee, which position he held from 1875-1882, he knew every child by name, and it is safe to say there was no child but knew and loved him. From the printed reports it is clear he understood the true and more modern meaning of education, for his method of dealing with both teacher and pupil shows that he believed to awaken the dormant, mental faculties is of far greater value than to store the mind with facts. While he conceded that "knowledge is power," he recognized the greater

truth that the quality of the power depends upon the nature of the knowledge and the nature of the man who uses it. It is the tendency of knowledge to make good citizens, but the true function of education is to enable one to overcome all the insidious temptations to use knowledge for wicked purposes.

It is to the efforts of Mr. Sidney Merriam and Rev. Anson McLoud that we owe the town library. It is a grand monument to their memories, and an incalculable benefit to the town. Starting with a nucleus of 520 volumes gathered from the Old Athenaeum, Agricultural Library and the circulating library of 268 volumes, the property of the Ladies' Society, it has constantly enlarged its borders, till today Topsfield can boast of one of the largest and best selected libraries in Essex county. The collection of books formerly belonging to the ladies deserves a passing notice. They were all purchased by Mr. McLoud and paid for by the ladies, and comprised the best books of the day, there being none of lighter vein than the poems of Longfellow. This library was taken in a large clothes basket from house to house where the society chanced to meet regularly every two weeks, during the winter months. This is one of the many ways in which this pastor taught his people to read. Long familiarity with books made Mr. McLoud a valuable librarian, which position he filled with ability from the founding of the library until his death.

The love for the beautiful in nature, and a desire to be of service to his fellowmen led him to assist in

adorning the public common with the most lasting and attractive of trees. The lofty and graceful elms, as they raise their branches heavenward, speak to the passer-by from out the silence to come up higher, to leave the paths of sin and come into the purer realms of spiritual life.

In politics this clear headed man was a staunch Republican, but he never unnecessarily or beyond the proper limit brought state affairs into the pulpit. But when the country was in peril, or weighty matters to be settled, like our Revolutionary fathers, whose true son he was, he did not hesitate to freely speak his mind. It is not strange when his services were available, that his party should honor themselves and the town by sending him in 1872 to the state legislature, where his vote always told though his voice was seldom heard.

The Sabbath school always received Mr. McLoud's heartiest support, and as far as records show, the largest membership was in 1863 and 1864 when the numbers reached the astonishing figures of 210. Teachers' meetings were conducted by him several times for short periods, but languished for want of patronage.

It is due to the men and women of the Topsfield Congregational church of this time, and their descendants, to say that they were a large hearted, generous, unselfish people. They did not recognize the claim of a minister to a munificent salary, but gave liberally in the form of private gifts and surprise parties. The 25th anniversary of Mr. McLoud's settlement was a "Red Letter" day; few

happier occasions ever graced a pastor or people. Mr. Nehemiah Cleveland presided over the exercises at the church, and his speech, when presenting \$1000 as a gift from a grateful and united parish, was characteristic of that illustrious family. The reply of the pastor was calm, unembarrassed and dignified, his subdued voice showing he appreciated the situation. The collation following in Union hall, the music by a detachment of Gilmore's famous band, and the after dinner speeches by ministers and friends from abroad, contributed to make Dec. 8, 1867, a memorable occasion.

In the spring of 1883 Mr. McLoud was appointed with Mr. Samuel Todd as a committee upon cemetery improvements, and with his characteristic zeal, went to work with his own hands to beautify it. It was here under a scorching July sun that he received the stroke that proved to be the beginning of the end of his earthly life. After a few months of languor and decline he passed, Feb. 21st, 1883, from the vision of his loving friends to the companionship of those who had preceded him.

One of the most difficult questions a young man is called upon to decide is his vocation. As he steps over the threshold that separates youth from manhood, the question "What shall be my place in life?" confronts him, and often the decision proves a disaster for him and all concerned in his welfare. Many a good artisan has been spoiled by trying to make an artist, but no one could ever think of the subject of this sketch as mistaking his calling; that he was designed for the pulpit was apparent,

and no one ever questioned his ability to hold this sacred position.

As this sketch is brought to a close one naturally inquires the purpose of such an historical review. Why does this society peer into the by-gones and bring to view that which has been covered with a mantle of years? Is it from mere curiosity or an attempt to pass an idle hour agreeably; is it simply to put into tangible, permanent form, that which we wish our descendants to peruse, or is there a higher, nobler aim in taking these retrospects? Has the past of Topsfield any relation to its present and future? Have we as successors of a grand and honored ancestry any responsibility to our inheritance? If any permanent good is to result from these investigations, comparisons must be made, relations traced, deficiencies remedied, and reform and advance attempted. Human life is an organic whole; no one liveth to himself. We are here to act and react upon each other in manifold ways; to take up and carry on work planned by others, and so plan and execute that those who follow us will be benefited.

For nearly a half century Rev. Anson McLoud went in and out of the homes of Topsfield, ministering to spiritual necessities, directing educational interests, uniting in mar-

riage sons and daughters, weeping at the bier of loved ones, and in a modest, dignified, Christian way, touching every side of life. To fully summarize his work would from this point of view be impossible, but to discover the secret of another power is the surest path to our own success. Each church, town, or hamlet, as truly as empires, has its period of rise, power and decline. What the age of Elizabeth was to England, the era of Pericles was to Greece, the early and middle years of this century were to Topsfield. The Congregational church was then at its zenith of power, which, coupled with Mr. McLoud's strict adherence to duty and devotion to his work, unfaltering belief in what he preached, sincerity of soul and earnestness of purpose, a well balanced and properly trained mind and a consecrated heart, made this period of Topsfield's church history a conspicuous one, and this pastor a prominent figure in its life. He has passed on to a higher sphere of action, and from an exalted position we seem to hear his voice bidding us to be true to our trust; to make no compromises with evil; to stand firmly by the dear old church and all it represents, and sacredly guard the interests of our historic town.



## **TOPSFIELD AND ROWLEY VILLAGE MEN WHO TOOK THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND FIDELITY.**

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**BY SIDNEY PERLEY.**

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THE oath of allegiance and fidelity to the sovereign might be required, by the ancient common law, of all persons above the age of twelve, and it was repeatedly used as a test for the disaffected. It was first imposed by statute in the reign of Elizabeth. Its early form was exceedingly strong and comprehensive.

Charles II was in special favor of the established church, and the fact that only members of the Congregational church had the right of suffrage in New England greatly disturbed him. His Episcopalian friends here were ever ready to inform him of incidents that could be construed to indicate the liberty and independence of the colonies. He had real cause for anxiety when the people dwelling north of the Merrimac river refused to obey his mandates and the officers whom he had sent to enforce them. Foreseeing this result, on the decision of the court in England in the Mason claim, in 1677, he immediately had the oath of allegiance and fidelity taken, and repeated it the next year. This repetition indicates how unsettled and alarming the condition of the country was at that time. This indication of distrust in England is given additional force the next year (1679) by the creation of a royal province in the northern portion of the Mason domain, and seven years later by the elimination of the principal part of the right of self-government of the Massachusetts Bay and other New England colonies, and placing them within the king's control.

The following lists of the inhabitants of Topsfield and Rowley Village, who took the oath of allegiance and fidelity in 1677 and 1678, are found recorded in Ipswich Deeds, Volume IV, the first on page 167 and the second on page 225, those marked by an asterisk, being of Rowley Village:—

A list of those of Topsfield who according to an order of the Gen'ell Court appeared before Ens. John Gould, in decemb: and January 1677 and have taken the oath of Alegance & fidelity.

Tho: Perkins Jun.	Wm Hobbs
Zach: Perkins	Isack Estie, Sen.
Timo: Perkins	Jo: Robinson
Issack Comings Jun.	Isaack Estie, Jun.
Jo: Comings Jun.	Joseph Estie
Eliash Perkins	Jacob Townes
Nath Comings	John Townes
Wm Howlett	Daniell Clarke
Issack Comings Sen.	Evan Morrice
John Wiles	Mr. Wm Perkins, Sen.
Sam: Howlett	*Tho: Andrews
John Prichett	Sam: Stanley
Wm Prichett	*Josiah Bridges
Joseph Prichett	John How clark
John Hovey	Tho: Newmans (?)
Ephr Dorman	*Jo: Vinton
Tho: Dorman	*Arthur Carry
Isaack Pabody	John Curtise
Tobiah Perkins	*Zache: Curtise
John Perkins	*Joseph Pabody
Timo Perkins	*Jo Kimball
Dan: Borman	Ben: Bixbie
Wm. Averill	*John Stiles
Dan: Redington	*Jo: Andrews
Nath: Hovey	*Joseph Andrews
Math: Stanley	*Dan: Blake
John Stanley	Jonah Looke
James Watters	Antho Baker
Wm Towne	*Blaze Vinton
Joseph Towne	Jo: — man
Mich Dunill	Tho: Tower
Jo: Nicolls	*Robt Smith
Isaack Burton	*Robt Stiles
Peeter Shamway	*Jo: Kemball
Wm Nicolls	*Dan: Wood
Tho: Looke	*Sam: Simon & his three men not
Tho: Cave	taken oath.
Phillip Knight	

These of Topsfield & Rowle village The maior Genell gave the oath  
of Allegence the 18th of Dcembar 1678, a list

mr Jery: Hubbord  
mr Wm Perkins senr.  
mr John Baker

Michaell Dunnell  
John Nicolls  
Isaack Burton

mr John Bradstreet	Peeter Shomway
mr Tho : Baker	Will Nickles
mr Wm Perkins junr	John Robinson
Lift. ffra : Pabody	Thomas Cae
Ens : John Gould	Phill : Knight
*sergt Jo : Pabody	Wm Hobbs
sergt Isaack Comings	Isaack Estye
sergt Ephr : Dorman	Joseph Estye
Corpel Jacob Towne	John Estye
John ffrench	John Townes
Isaack Esteye senr	Jacob Towne junr
John Wild	John Curtice
sergt Jo : Redington	*Zakory Curtice
Thomas Perkins	Tho : [Neumans?]
Joseph Towne senr	Evan Morice
Daniell Clarke	John Clarke
John How	Anthony Baker
*John Comings senr	John Gould junr
William Averill	*Sam : Symons
Sam : Howlett	*Tho : Andrews
William Howlett	Sam : Stanley
Daniell Boriman	*Josiah Bridges
Tho Dorman	*Joseph Pabody
Mathew Stanley	*John Kimball
Tho : Perkins junr	*Robert Stiles
Zacheous Perkins	Beniamin Bixby
Timo : Perkins	*John Andres
Isaack Comings junr	*Joseph Andrews
John Comings junr	*John Stiles
Nath : Comings	*Daniell Black
John —	Jonath : Looke
John Pritchett	*Blaze Vinton
Will Pritchett	*John Vinton
Joseph Pritchett	*Arther Carey
Wm Pabody	*Robert Smith
Isaack Pabody	*John Ramsdell
Tobiah Perkins	John Havens
John Perkins	Nath : Nurce
Timo : Perkins	Joshua Betion
Dan : Redington	*Sam : Busell
John Stanley	*Tho : Comings
James Watters	Jacob ffoster
Wm Townes	*ffrancis Lathe
Joseph Townes junr	Elisha Perkins
Thomas Townes	

**TOPSFIELD BILL OF ESTATE,  
MADE BETWEEN 1723 AND 1725.**

	Poles	Personal estate				
		Real estate				
Wedo Hannah and ann Aurel . . . . .	0	0	0	01	11	00 6
Nathaniel aurel . . . . .	8	7	6	08	0	01 8
Wed Mahitabel aurel . . . . .	1	2	6	02	11	01 2
Joseph andrew . . . . .	1	2	6	02	6	00 6
lef Thomas Baker . . . . .	8	7	6	05	8	08 1
mr Simon Bradstret . . . . .	1	2	6	04	0	01 4
Samuel Bradstret . . . . .	1	2	6	02	11	01 7
Beniamin bixby . . . . .	1	2	6	01	6	00 9
Joseph Borman . . . . .	2	5	0	01	7	01 3
nathaniel borman . . . . .	2	5	0	08	6	01 10
Dauid Baultch . . . . .	2	5	0	00	6	00 2
Daniel Clark . . . . .	8	7	6	02	5	01 8
wed and John Clark . . . . .	1	2	6	00	9	00 3
Jacob Clark . . . . .	1	2	6	00	0	00 0
mr John Capen . . . . .	1	2	6	01	4	00 4
nathaniel Cepen . . . . .	1	2	6	00	0	00 0
Joseph commings . . . . .	1	2	6	01	4	00 10
Joseph coimmings Jun . . . . .	0	0	0	00	9	00 0
lef Ephraim dorman . . . . .	2	5	0	08	3	01 8
Jesse dorman . . . . .	1	2	6	02	8	01 4
wed Deborah dorman . . . . .	0	0	0	01	7	01 3
Jacob Esty . . . . .	1	2	6	02	8	01 2
ens John Gould . . . . .	3	7	6	08	1	01 5
Thomas Gould . . . . .	3	7	6	01	4	01 2
lef Joseph Gould . . . . .	1	2	6	08	2	01 7
Zacheus Gould . . . . .	1	2	6	01	10	01 3
[Samuel?] Gould . . . . .	2	5	0	00	3	00 2
Thomas garr . . . . .	1	2	6	01	8	00 9
cap John How . . . . .	0	0	0	01	10	00 10
sar John Howlett . . . . .	2	5	0	08	3	01 9
Samuel howlet . . . . .	1	2	6	01	9	01 1
John houey . . . . .	2	5	0	02	1	01 8

THE  
EARLY RECORDS  
OF THE  
TOWN OF TOPSFIELD,  
MASSACHUSETTS.

TRANSCRIBED BY GEO. FR. DOW.

CONTINUED FROM VOL. II, PAGE 52.

Apon Ipswich or Rowly Refuesing to agree With or men to Lay out a Country roade from Rowly to Topsfeild thay haue power in ye Name of or Towne to moue ye Honerable Court for helpe in this Case. Voated

At A Lawfull Meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the 16 of may 1684.

The Towne did mainfest by Voat that thay ware Willing to proseed to ordanation With Mr Joseph Capen.

The Towne has manifested by Voate to answer Mr Joseph Capen desier in sending to fие Churchis for mesengers to Mr Capen. Voated

Lliut Pebody Deacken Perkins Lliut Baker Ensigne Pebody John Houey Corpr Townes Isacke Estey Senr & John Gould Senr are Chosen to prouide for Mr Capen ordanation and the Towne and Church to pay for ye Charges thay bee out about it in such as thay Lay out Ether in Kind or eles in that as ye Law dos say is equeliant to it. Voated

The Commitey that was Chosen to Lay out to Mr Capen twelue Eackers of Land & medow & swamp is impowered to goe and rectifie there Line alredy rune and if that dos not reach the Coues of medow but by adding then thay haue power to Lay ye Coue or Coues of medow to Mr Capen. Voated

Wee whose names are Vnderwritting being appioynted som for Ipswich and P Ipswich Towne and som for Topsfeild and P Topsfeild Towne to settell the Line betwext said Townes haue agreed as followeth that the Line shall Rune: and is settled from a planted Tree in a stomp in Thomas perely his feild to

a black oak Tree marked with a heape of stones at it: soe to a whiat oak Tree marked with a heap of stones at it and soe on a streight Line to a pond Called Mr Bakers pond: and then the pond to be the bounds till it Comes to the soe east end of the pond: till it Comes to a White oak Tree marked & a peice of medow: and then to run on a streight Line to another White oak Tree marked with a :T : on the south sid an : I : on the north sid With a heape of stones at it, neer the farme formerly Mr Symonds his farme: still Running one a streight Line to that farme, and soe on a Line to the brooke, and then as the brooke Runeth till it Comes into Ipswich Riuver: Mr Symonds farme being included in Topsfeild bounds: Topsfeild men subscribing haue a greed to all aboue Written apon the acount that the prouiso in Ipswich Towne Grant to Topsfeild with Respect to theire Catle Trespassing be noe more Liable to pay then other Townes for their Catle Trespassing in Witness where of The perties appoyned by their seuerall Townes haue sett to their hands this 28th 2 month 1684 ssigned & In prsence of Wittnesses P the perties sent P Ipswich to the perties Concerned for Topsfeild.

John Wilds	Daniell Epps
John How	Thomas Wade
Jacob Townes	Simon Stace
Ephrom Dorman	Nehemiah Jewet
John Houey	John Appleton
	Thomas Burman Senr

Wittnesses

Joseph Goodhou
John Whipple

This is a true Copey Compared with ye orignell Vnder there hands

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stomp in Thomas perely his feild to

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heape of stones at it: soe to a whiat  
oak Tree marked with a heap of  
stones at it and soe on a streight  
Line to a pond Called Mr Bakers  
pond: and then the pond to be the  
bounds till it Comes to the soe east  
end of the pond: till it Comes to a  
White oak Tree marked & a peice of  
medow: and then to run on a streight  
Line to another White oak Tree  
marked with a :T : on the south sid  
an : I : on the north sid With a  
heape of stones at it, neer the farme  
formerly Mr Symonds his farme:  
still Running one a streight Line to  
that farme, and soe on a Line to the  
brooke, and then as the brooke Run-  
eth till it Comes into Ipswich Riner:  
Mr Symonds farme being included in  
Topsfeild bounds: Topsfeild men  
subscribing haue a greed to all  
aboue Written upon the acount that  
the prouiso in Ipswich Towne Grant  
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#### Wittnesses

Joseph Goodhou  
John Whipple

This is a true Copey Compared  
with ye orignell Vnder there hands

of both partyes by both Townes as thay ware apionted by there Townes as atested P me John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild

Witnes to ye truth of the Copey  
John How Epherim dorman

At a meeting of the Towne of Ipswich the 17th of Apriell 1684 Called about Runing the Line betweene Topsfeild and Ipswich appon a motion made by the selectmen of Topsfeild to the selectmen of Ipswich for that end: it was at this Towne meeting Voted that Capt John Appleton Capt Daniell Epps Lliut Thomas Burnum and Mr Nehemiah Jewett should be adJoyned With Mr Thomas Wade and Ensigne Stace Who weare formerly appointed by the Towne to Run Lines as there should be occasion To Run this Line betwene ye Towne of Ipswich and Topsfeild and to settell the Bounds according to former agreement betwene the fore said Townes as may appeare Vpon Records: and if there appears no agreement Vpon Record: then the Towne by there Vote haue giuen to ye gentlemen a boue named full power to make a full agreement and settle the Bounds Betweene the said Townes as thay in there Wisdom shall thinke best to be done.

At a Generall Towne meeting february ye 9th 1651 Vpon the petition of Topsfeild the Towne haue Refferred the dispossessing of the Common ground neere the new medowes to the seauen men.

At ye same Towne meeting Granted to Ensigne Thomas Howlett six acres of Vpland to be Joyned to the farme which hee bought of Mr

Roggers Wheare the said Ensigne haue biult his house.

Granted and sold Vnto Ensigne Howlett a littell stripe of Land Lying Betwene him and Daniell Clarke

At a Towne meeting febuary 19th 1660 Granted Ensigne Howlett to exchang a small percell of Land according as Richard Jacob Mosis Pengry and Robart Lord in the behalfe of the Towne Veiwing of the same shall Judge meete to Lay it out to him.

At ye Towne meeting hild the 18th febuary 1661 Granted to Ensigne Howlett to Exchange a percell of medow wth the Towne Vpon Equall Teirmes as shall be Judged meet by Deacon Goodhue and Richard Jacob prouided that if the said Ensigne Howlett doe not make good the titell of the medow he doth Exchange that then this grant to be Voide.

Thes six perticelers aboue written are True Coppies taken out of the Towne Booke of Ipswich as thay are there Recorded.

P John Brewer Clarke of ye  
Towne of Ipswich.  
Apriell 23 1684

Thes are True Copies of those Copies as atested P mee John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

Witness to the Copyes as thay be prsented to Vs Vnder ye Clarke of Ipswich hands besides or Clarke hand:

John How William Smith Jur

At A Lawfull Towne meeting of the Towne of Topsfeild the 19 agust 1684.

William Aueriell senr is Chosen Commisenor for the Towne of Tops-

feild for this yeare to goe to the twenty pounds of it is to be paid in  
Sheere Towne to Joyne with ye siluer 75-00-00  
Commissioners there.

At A Llawfull Towne Meeting the 26 of Nouumber 1684: our Towne of Topsfeild Considring the great Euell that may Come by so Contending Eache Towne one with ye other and especly in this Time when we haue Case to feare an enemie may Come and breake or pease and take or prilidges from Vs Wee doe propound to ye Towne of Salam to Chose a Commite to Sttell the six miles extent Line from there meeting house toward or Towne and to giue there Commitee ffull power to Settell a Lline with a Commite Chosen by or Towne for that end and for both Townes to Chose men to bee of the Commites to bee such as are not preposedes or any wayes Consarned in ye Case and this Wee doe desier ye Gentellmen selectmen of Salam to propound to there Towne and to send Vs there Townes mind: Lliut Baker is Chosen to Carey this to ye selectmen of Salam and to prsent it to them as the Towne of Topsfeild desier to bee prsented to ye Towne of Salam as aboue said.

Voated

Seuerall Rates made and deliuered to ye Constabell of Topsfeild this 20 of Jenewary 1684.

To two singell Contrey rates one to be paid in money the other in Corne ye Countrey demand is 15lb the rate as it is made is £15-13-02

one Towne Rate amounting to 07lb 16s 04.

one Rate for ye ministrey in ye yeare 1684 the same is 75lb whereof

one Rate for ye ordanation of mr Capen Comeing to 08lb 06s 02d

Topsfield feb 24th 85.

This may signify to whom it may concern that I haue reseued of Constabell Ridington that is Daniell Ridington that half Rate which was made for me upon ye account of ye menestry in Topsfield & committed to ye said Redington to gather for me which was for part of ye yere 82 & part of ye yere 83 I say reseued by me ye full of that rate or that of ye constable which was to my full satisfaction as witnes my hand ye day and dat a houe written.

Joseph Capen

This is a true Copy of that reseight taken and entered by me Ephraim Dorman,

Recorder for Topsfield  
Topsfield the 22 fabruary 1686 or  
87.

a single Country rat mad by order of his Exselencye & Consell & committed to Constable Comings to gather ye totall amounting to seauen pounds thirtene shillings and two pence.

Boston the 25th may 1687.

Reseiued of Isaac Comings Constable in the Towne of Topsfield seauen pounds thirtene shilings being the Cuntry rate for said Towne and is in full for the same.

John Vsher Treasurer  
this is a true Copy of the Treasurers reseight entered by me Ephram Dorman recorder for Topsfield.  
witnes

John How Isaac Pabody

We Whose Names are Vnder  
Wrighteen being apionted by ye  
Towne at a towne meeting ye 16 of  
may 1684 to ade to mr Capen Line  
ye Coues or Couess of medow, haue  
don it wee marked ablake ocke stand-  
ing about one rode from ye medow  
side and so ruining apon a straight  
Line from that tree to both Corner  
of ye fence as it now stands this 2:  
march 1684 or 85.

witnes or hands

frances pabody  
jjohn Wiles  
John Redington  
Jacob towne  
John Gould

At a Lawfull Meeting of ye Town  
of Topsfeild ye 16th of May 1684.

the Town did manifest by vot  
that they were willing to proceed to  
ordination with Mr Joseph Capen.

Voted

The Town has manifested by vote  
to answer to Mr Joseph Capens  
desier in sending to five Churches for  
MesenJers to Mr Capens Ordaination.  
Voted

Llievet Peabody Deacon Perkins  
Llievet Baker Ensigne Peabody John  
Hovey Corpll Townes Isaac Estey  
senr. and John Gould are Chosen to  
provide for Mr. Capens Ordination,  
and ye Town and Church to pay for  
the charges they be out about it;  
such as they lay out; Ether in Kinde  
or in that as ye Law doth say is  
Equivalent to it. Voted

The Comitie that are chosen to lay  
out to Mr. Capen Twelve acres of  
Land and Medow & Swamp, is Im-  
powered to go and Rectifie three  
Lines at redg tonne and if that do

not reach the Cove of Medow, then  
they have power to Lay out the  
Coves of Medow to Mr. Capen.

At a Lawfull Town Meeting the  
6th Day of october 1685 the Town  
has manifested by vote that they will  
Chuse a commitie to Treat with  
Rowley Villagers to see what they  
will pay towards the maintainance of  
our Minister by the Year. Voted

Llievt Baker Deacon Perkins  
SarJt. Dorman Sarjt. Towns and  
William Averell Senr. is Chozen a  
Commitie To Treat with Rowley  
Villagers to see what they will give  
towards the maintainance of our  
Ministry by the year and to make  
Return of it to the Town.

at A Lawfull Towne meeting ye  
3 march 1684 or 85.

John Gould was Chosen to be ye  
Towne Clarke to kepe ye Towne  
booke of reckads for Topsfeild for  
ye year insueing.

Elisha perkins is Chosen Consta-  
bell for Topsfield for ye yeare in  
sueing. Voted

Sargt Redington Lliut Thomas  
Baker Sargt Ephram Dorman and  
Samuel Howlett and John Gould are  
Chosen selectmen to order ye pre-  
dushall afares of the Towne for this  
yeare, but thay haue noe power to  
despose of ye Towne Land. Voted

The Towne has by Voate declared  
that thay doe grant to mr Capen to  
be a Comener in the Towne with  
orselues. Voted

The Towne has manifested by  
Voate yt thay will Chose men to  
rune out ye mile & quarter which is  
not yet rune out with Salam a Cord-  
ing to agreement and so on apon ye

same piont of ye Compas. Voated

Corpr Houey & Isacke Estey and John Gould are Chosen and impowered to rune out ye mile & quarter which is not yet rune out aCording to a greement with Salem men and so one as there a greement is provided thay shall not any wise weakn ye power formerly granted to Liut Baker Sargt Townes & Sargt How.

Voated

Daniel Redington samuel standly are Chosen seruayeres for hie wayes this in sueing year.

Voated

Isacke pebody & Isacke Estey Junr are Chosen fence Veveeres for this in sueing year.

Voted

Isacke Estey senr is Chosen Jueryman of Trialls for this next Court at Ipswich.

Voted

the Towne has Chosen there prsent seclctmen to Veve What is by Lliut pebody & John Gould taken out of ye old Towne Booke and subcribed into ye new and see if there is any more to betake out and what ye maior part of them doe agree two the Towne shall stand two.

Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting the 14 march 8<sup>th</sup> Et Was Voted that samuel symons should take pay of those yt doe seet in ye seeats that hee dos set Vp at ye east end of ye meeting house thay being Constant Contruibatrs to ye word of god here at Topsfeild aCording to there ability.

Voated

William Auerell senr Enters his Contrey desents to ye Voate aboue wrighteen.

at a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 14 march 1684-5.

The Towne doth order that ye the grounds and Cases of any Towne meeting that shall be a greeed Vpon

and noties giuen togather With Waring of the meeting to the Inhabitance and it shall not be Lawfull for any thing to be acted in any Towne meeting but What there shall be noties giuen of When such meetings shall be Warned, UnLess some Vergant aCations shall fall out that Could not before seeme to be a Voaided.

Voated

The Towne dos agree that Leagall noties for Waring Towne meetings shall be in Wrighting Ether Vnder ye Constabels hand or seclctm hands and it to be set Vp one ye meeting house dores.

Voated

The Towne dos pase a Voate that if any man or men doth goe thoroe any man Land Where there is no hie Way and Leauue doune the fence shall pay afine of ffeue shilings for Euerey such defalt.

Voated

at a Lawfull meeting of ye ffreen-men of Topsfeild ye 28 Apriell 1685, mr William perkins is Chosen Grandjuror man for ye yeare insueing.

Voated

At A Lawfull Towne meeting ye 19 of may 1685.

The Towne dos giue full power to the prsnt seclctmen to recken With mr Thomas Hunter Atuereney to prizzilah Throw alias Hunter bareing date ye 7 day of May 1685, to Cale or demand for any part or parcell of Lluke Waklin Estate, the Towne Voated that ye seclctmen should giue him an a Count and Deliuer all the mouabell Estate of Luke Waklien as ye seclctmen had taken into there bands, all but What ye seclctmen was out about in maintaing Luke Waklein duering his naterall Life and at his bueriall, and all ye rest of ye state to be deliuered to ye

aboue said Thomas Hunter for any house or Land that Was Luke Waklen ye Towne nor selectmen never had it in there hands.      Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 6 day of october 1685.

The Towne has mainfested by Voate yt thay will Chose a Commitey ffirndly to treat With Rowley Viligers to see what they will pay towards ye maintnance of or minister by ye yeare.      Voated

Lliut Baker Deackou perkins sargt Ephram Dorman sargt Townes and William Auerill seur is Chosen a Commitey to treat with Rowley Viligers too see what thay will giue towards ye maintance of or minister by ye yeare and to make returne of it to the Towne.      Voated

May ye 20 1685.

I Thomas Hunter Atuereney to my Mother prizzalah Throw alies Hunter doe hereby aquite and discharge ye selectmen of Topsfeild in ye behalfe of ye Towne of Topsfeild of all ye moueball Estate yt was Luke Wakline in Topsfeild; for they haue giuen mee a full and true an a Count of all yt was deliuered to pete[r] Chomway by ye selectmen and deliuered it to mee and what wase in other men hands thay haue giuen mee an a Count of, whereby I doe discharge ye selectmen in ye behalfe of ye Towne and peter Chomway from any part of this Estate before men- cened in as full and ampley amaner as my mother Throw alies Hunter Could a done and if shee was here prsant her selfe, whereby I doe by this prsant a quite discharge and release ye selectmen and peter Chomway from all and Euerey part & parcell of yt Estate aboue men-

cned as witnes my hand ye day & yeare aboue wrighteen.

Thomas Hunter  
this was seigned & deliuered in ye prsant of Vs.

William smith senr and Joseph smith.

at a lawfull Town meting the 2 of march 1685 : 86.

Sargent Ephriam dorman is chosen clark to kepe the Town Book for this yere iuSuing.      noted

at a lawfull Towne meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86.

Leiut. Gould Leiut Thomas Baker Corpll John Houey mr Tobiiah pirkins Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for this yere inseuing.      noted

At a lawfull Towne meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 John prichet is chosen Constable for this preasent yere in sewing.      noted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 Isack Easty senr is Chosen Jury man for trialls to atend the next seations of the Court held at Ipswich after the dat hereof.      noted

at a lawfull Toune meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 the Toune bath freed John prichet from the a boone mentioned choyse of a constable.      noted

at a lawfull Toune meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 Sargent Isack Comings is Chosen Constable for this yere insewing.      noted

at a lawfull Towne meting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 daniell Redingtun and John Robison are Chosen seruayers for high wayse for this yere insewing.      noted

at a lawfull Toune meeting the 2 of march 1685 or 86 John Toune and

and Timmothy pirkins are Chosen  
fence newers for this preasent yere  
insewing.

at a lawfull Toune meeting the 2  
of march 1685 or 86.

in answer to Mr Capense desire  
speisified in wrighting to the Toune  
for the grant of a small pece of land  
as his barne stands on and for a  
yard; the Toune bath granted ten  
rod of ground and what his barn  
stands on and for a leanto.

and Isack Eastye senier and Corpil  
John Houey are Chosen to lay out  
the aboue said land to Mr Capen.

at a lawfull Toune meeting 2 of  
march 1685 or 86 in answer to Cor-  
porall Smiths desire to the Towne to  
renew the bounds of the parsonidg  
land: the Toune haue Chose Lieut  
peabody Isack Eastye senr and  
Corpil houey to renew the bounds  
aboue mentioned.

at a lawfull Toune meeting 2 of  
march 1685 or 86 in answer to Isack  
peabodys desire manyfested to the  
Toune for a seate in the meting  
house that is to set up a seat by the  
galery staires: the Toune bath  
granted his request.

up on the 16 of the first month in  
86 we who weare apionted by the  
Toune as apers in the Toune book  
Corpil John Houey and Isack Eastye  
senr haue laid out the land to Mr  
Capen a bout his barne in this man-  
ner ten foot for a leantoo on the  
west ende and then three rod square  
on the south side of the barne and  
one rod at the east ende staked out  
with four stakes and rocks at the  
stakes.

Isack Eastye senr  
John Houey senr

Wee Lieut frances Peabody Isack  
Eastye senr Corpil John Houey sargent  
John Redington being Chosen by the  
Toune and selectmen to settle the  
bounds of the Parsonage land and  
haue accordingly dun it and haue  
measured out thirty acres of vpland  
and swamp to the southward of mr  
Pirkinsis field: from mr Pirkins his  
line three score rod & haue marked  
a swamp oake neere to mr Pirkins  
his line: a blak oack at the south-  
east Corner next the common a heape  
of rocks neere to a black or a yeallow  
oack at the south westerly corner  
amapel tree in ye pine swamp at the  
norwest corner neere the hill called  
bare hill—also we haue layd out  
eleauen akers whare the house  
stands: haue measured from the  
yard westward next the highway  
fourty four rod haue marked a young  
croched white oack and forty pole  
to wards the north: haue set a stake  
and a heape of rocks a bout it: haue  
come forty four rods eastwardly  
astake for the mark neere a grat rock  
at the norest corner: and forty rods  
southwardly to a post by the yard  
whare we began dat ye 26 of march  
1686.

frances Peabody  
John Ridington  
Isack Eastye senr  
John Houey senr

Wee whos names are under  
wrighten being Chosen by the Toune  
of Topsfield to exaammon the bounds  
of such men as haue lands Aioyning  
to the Common according to our  
power we haue exaammoned the  
bounds of John Prichets land and  
not being fully sattisfyed about his  
bounds he Claimed; we came to an  
A greement with him: as we had

power to doe and we haue fully a  
greed with John Prichet as foloweth:  
that is that the fence of John  
prichets as it now stands on the  
northerly side of his land: and a  
Joyneing to our Common shall be his  
bounds for euer: to remaine as a  
settled bounds betwene John Prich-  
ets land and ye Common: to him and  
his hairs and a signes for euer: the  
fence now beginiug at the ende of  
the pond and so runing from thence  
to a meadow of mr Bakers so far as  
Topsfield Common runs: always pro-  
uided mr Baker shall haue leborty to  
goe with his Cart upon the upland by  
the medow side with hay: with out  
molestation from John Prichet or his  
haires for euer: and further we doe  
agree that care may be taken that  
thare shall be no remoueall of the  
fence towards the Common: but that  
the bounds shall be renewed as the  
fence now stands: and in conidera-  
tion of this a grement John Prechet  
hath giuen bill to pay five pounds  
ten shillings: and that this is our  
agreement: we haue a tested with  
our hands dat the 22 of aprill 1686.

witnes Thomas Baker  
Ephraim Dorman Jacob Toune  
Edna Hazen John How  
Wee Lieut Thomas Baker Jacob  
Towne senr John How haue settelod  
a Line betwen Corpil Thomas Pearly  
and Topsfield Common we haueing  
power so to doe by order from the  
Towne of Topsfield and we haue a  
greed and settelod the bounds be-  
twene Corpil Perly and Topsfield  
Common as foloweth that is that the  
bounds shall be and remaine betwene  
Topsfield Common and Corpil Perlys  
land as the said Perlys fence now  
standeth on that side of the sd

Perlys land next John Prichets land  
and our Common the Conseederation  
is twenty four shillings halfe mony:  
dath 30 of aprill 1686.

witnes Thomas Baker

**Ephraim Dorman**      **Jacob Toune**  
**Isack Foster junior**      **John How**

**At a lawfull meeting of the free-  
men of Topsfield the 4 of may 1686.**

Thomas Dorman is Chosen a  
Graniury man for Topsfield for this  
yeare. voted

At a lawfull Towne meeting the  
28 of June 1686.

The Toune did agree that a Com-  
mity should be Chosen to goe with  
Salem men to perambulate on the  
agreement Line betwene Salem and  
Topfield and to run the line out a  
cording to agreement If thay can  
agree about it.

and further the Toune haue chose  
Leiut Thomas Baker and Sargt  
Jacob Toune and Sargt John How  
and John Wilds and Isack Easty  
sener to be the commity to Joyne  
with Salem men to parambulate: and  
run out the line If thay can agree as  
a boue mentioned.

Corporall John Houey doth enter his contrary desent to the aboue mentioned acte: Lieut John Gould doth enter his contrary disent to the aboue mentioned acte.

Boston Aprill 6th 1686  
Reseived of Elisha pirkins Con-  
stable of Topsfield the some of three  
pounds fiftene shilings in mony being  
the full of the mony Rate for Tops-  
field I say Reseuued the day and yere  
as aboue.

P Samuell Nowill Treasurer  
This is to sertyfy that Elisha Pirkins  
Constable of Topsfield haue paide  
by my order the full of the County

Rate for the yere 85: 3lb: 15s: June 10: 86 by me John Appleton then Treasurer for the County.

Reseiued the 3 of June 1669 of Thomas Dorman constable of Topsfield the some of ninetene pounds thirtene shillings and six pence: being in full of the rate for the yeare past. I say reseiued in full acording to my worrent, by uertue of the Genarall Courte order by me.

Richard Rusill Treasurer

Reseuued the 6th of nouember 1669 of Thomas Dorman Cunstable of Topsfield for his County rate due in 68 in full three pounds one shiling and a leauen pence I say reseued by me.

Robart Paine Treasurer

thes four reseights aboue mentioned are true cappies taken and entered date 27 of september 86.

P Ephraim dorman Clark

Reseuued of the Constable of Topsfield 26: 1: p in full of theire Rate eight pounds fifteene s, and three pence I say reseued in full of thare Tounes proportion to the Country rate-08-15-03 p me

Richard Russill Treasurer

this is a true Copy of the treasurers reight taken and entered for Daniell Borman P Ephraim Dorman recorder for Topsfield. dat 28th: 7mo: 86.

At a lawfull meeting of the Selectmen of Topsfield the 16th of aprill 1686 in answer to an apointment from the selectmen of Salem to the Selectmen of Topsfield: to goe on the perambulation on the agreement line acording to a greement betwene the Toune of Salem and the Toune of Topsfield in answer to it we haue chosen Lieut John Gould and Corpll

John Houey and Isaac Eastye senr: this is a true Coppey of the Selectmens act in answer to Salem mens apointment as aboue mentioned: taken an entered by me.

Ephraim Dorman  
Recorder for Topsfield

witnes Thomas Baker

At a lawfull Towne meeting 22 of october 1686.

thare being som gentell men of Salem villidg as desires to speake with our Toune: in order to it the Toune h uae agreed to here what thay haue to say and to see thare pouer but not to proseed with them in disschorse about theare intentions: but conseder of what thay said when thay be absent: and send the Touns mind to them.

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 22 of october 1686.

the Toune haue unanimously manfested thare desiers that mr Capen would be plesed to prech lecters If he can with conueniencey and as often as he pleseth.

Two Rates mad for mr Cappen bareing dat the 28th of december 1686.

the mony Rate was fiftene pounds twelue shilings and seauen pence the other pay Rate was forty two pounds two shilings and nine pence thay being alowed on by the Justises weare committed to our constable Decn Isaac Comings to gather.

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 25th of Jenuary 1686 or 87.

the Toune haue alowed Cunstable Comings his bill of charge uiz four shilings for conueying morris out of the Toune and three shilings for forworneing two womin out of the Toune.

and firther thay haue alowed Lieut Thomas Baker ffe shilings in siluer three for the Justises confermation of our Rates to our menister and granting a worrent to our Cunstable to gather them and two shilings for three days one for goeing Commis- iener to Salem & two days to the Justises aboue said. uoted

and firther the Toune consedering the necesity of the two galleryes to be set up forth with yt ye select men haue agreed with Samuell Simons to set up and Samuell Simons desiered the Toune to pay him for them or giue him full power to sell them to whom he will: the Toune doe agree to giue the said Simons twenty or thirty shilings for the Gallires thay haueing three seats apece in them and the said Simons hath power to take the rest of his pay of them that doe sit in them a cording to former order: and If the said Simous doe not exsept of this then he may com & agree firther with ye Selectmen that the work may be dun. uoted

also the Toune haue giuen the Selectmen power to agree with the said Simons about the galleries as aboue said. uoted

and firther the Toune haue agreed that Corpil John Houey shall repaire the hinde sete of his gallery and the Toune haue left it to the Selectmen to agree with him about his cost and charge and to alow him on the Touns acount. uoted

further Captin John How is chosen to goe to boston to procure ye hon- ered gouerner bradstreets testimony in the behalfe of ye toune conserning our land on the south side of the reuer. uoted

and the Toune haue left it to the

Selectmen to alow Capt How his charg on the Touns account for goeing to boston as aboue said. uoted

Lieut John Gould doth enter his contrary desent to the two last uotes aboue mentioned.

At a lawfull Town meeting the 1 of march 1688 Left Dorman is chosen clark.

Capt John How and Isaac Easty senr and Samuell Howlet Thomas Dorman and Ephraim dorman are Chosen selectmen for this yere en- sewing. uoted

Thomas Pirkins is Chosen Consta- ble for this preasent yere ensewing. uoted

John prichet and William Toune are Chosen seruayers of hiways for this yere insewing. uoted

Thomas Toune and Timmothy pirkins Junr are Chosen fence uewer for this preasen yer insewing. uoted

the Toune haue agred and ordered that no dam shall be made to stop the water as sumtimes runs out of the mill pond in to mr Timmothy pirkins his medow by his barne. uoted

and further at Samuell Houlets reques the Toune haue granted to change land with him that is If he will lay doun the land by his house to the Touns use as common thay will alow him so many akors and rods of ground by the land and medow as he the said Samuell bought of mr Hobart so to be laid out as not to be preiedishall to the highways. uoted

and the Toune haue Chose Leut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Thomas Dorman to lay out the land to samuell houlet in way of exchang acording to the aboue men-

tioned order.

and the Toune haue granted to  
mr william pirkins three quorters of  
an aker of land on the norewest side  
of that swampy brook Joyneing to  
his own land prouided that thos men  
being Chose in the behalfe of the  
Toune and mr william pirkins doe  
agree about it.

Leiut John gould doth enter his  
contrary desent to the aboue men-  
tioned act.

and the Toune haue chose Leuten-  
nant Thomas baker and Capt John  
How and Sargt Thomas dorman to  
agree with mr william perkins about  
the three quarters of an aker for the  
price and pay and the place whare it  
is to be laid out as aboue mentioned  
and to lay it out.

and the Toune haue agreed to allow  
any as shall kill wolues in our Toune  
that is to Touns men ten shillings  
apece for euery wolfe so killed.

at a Lawfull Toune meeting the 6t  
of april 1687.

the Toune haue agreed to Chuse a  
commity to seat people or order the  
seating of people in those seates as  
weare set up by a publick Toune  
Charge.

Leiut ffrances peabody Leiut John  
Gould and Leiut Thomas Baker Eu-  
signe Jacob Toune and Corporall  
John Houey are Chosen to seate  
people in the meeting house acording  
to the aboue mentioned uote.

also the Toune haue agreed to  
send to our neighbors and frinds of  
Boxford to Chuse a commity to  
Joyne with our Community for the  
seating of people in the meeting  
hous as aboue mentioned.

The Toune haue Chosen Corpll

John Houey and John Robbison to  
run the line betwene Thomas Touns  
Land on the south side of the Reuer  
and the Touns Common.

At a lawfull meting of the Select-  
men of Topsfield ye 20 aprill 1687.

in answer to an apointment of the  
Gentellmen of Ipswich to perambu-  
lise on the agreement line betwene  
Ipswich and Topsfield: in answer to  
that we haue chose Lieut Thomas  
Baker and Capt John How and John  
Prichet.

Ephraim Dorman in the name of  
the reste of the selectmen of Tops-  
field.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 26  
sept 1687.

Capt John How is Chosen by the  
Toune to prefer thare petesy [on] to  
his Exelencey the Gouernor and  
Counsell.

at a lawfull Toune meeting 30th of  
sept 1687 the Toune did agree that  
the answer as was mad by the Toun  
to the treasurers warrent as did in-  
clude som scruples about it: that  
answer the Toune did agree should  
be remoued out of the book it being  
found to be efensive to athoryty.

at a lawfull Toune meeting 31 day  
of may 1687.

in answer to the desire of som per-  
sons the Toune haue giuen Leborty  
for any persons to plant Tobacco on  
the common ground for this yere  
prouided thay intrude not on any  
highwa[y].

and the Toune haue agreed that  
the fore side of the roofe of the  
meeting house shall be mended whare  
it is leakey.

The Toune haue confermed the  
former Toune act in the Choice of

the Commity for the seating the people in the meeting house as it is speasified in the fore mentioned uote.

uoted

Reseuied of John Pritchett forty shilings by order of the selectmen which was due to him from the Toune for being dabuty this forty shillings is parte of a best that I reseuied at three pounds nintene shillings: dat 18 June 168[7].

Thomas Baker

Mr Joseph Porters bounds settell-ed: a whight oack standing by the east side of apine swamp: and a red ock on the north side of the swamp nere dwounills: and aread oack or a black oack on the northeast side of the swamp nere wenham Causway.

Mr Beniamen Porters bounds a whight oack nere John Curtiouassis and a blak stump nere Nickalls his brook which is said Nickalls his bounds and a whight oack: and a whight oack on the south side of the brook being bartholmues bounds and nickallisis: and a read oack being Andrewsis bounds and a whight oack in the rang towards the whight oack in Curtiouassis field.

a cording to the Tounes order Leut Thomas baker Capt How and Sargt Thomas Dorman haue sould Mr William Pirkins about three quorters of an aker of that which was the Tounes Common being im-powered by the Toune so to doe and it is bounded as foloweth it lying on the norewest of mr william pirkins his hous by the swampy broock nere Capt Hows the east corner is a stake by the brook standing by an elme tree and a whight oack on the nore west corner to wards mr Capens and a stake on the southwest corner nere

Capt Hows barne and with a straight line to a stake at the south east corner nere that bridg ouer the brook in the way to the said Pirkins his house: the said land was sould to the said Pirkins for thirty shilings ten of it in siluer twenty of it in corne.

dat the 8th of nouember 1687.

Thomas Baker

John How

Thomas Dorman

The bounds of the land that we whos names are under writen haue laid out to Sargt Samuell Houlet by Toune order in way of exchang, the first bounds is a stake twelue pole from the fence towards muddy spring and from thence towards Mr Capens: to an other stake and stones: and from thence to an other stake and stones ner the corner of Mr Capens field: from thence to a whight oack tree marked nere the high way: and from thence to a black oack marked nere samuell Houlets pond next the high way Joyning to his fence.

dat the 8th nouember 1687.

Thomas Baker

Thomas Dorman

John How

Reseiued of Ephraim Dorman upon the Selectmens a count as was due from the Toune for the defraying the Justisis Charge when thay came to take an a count of the Touns estate: thirtene shilings and three pence in siluer l say reseiued by me William Smith. dat 23 december 1687

this is a true Copye taken and entered P me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Leut Thomas baker paid three shillings and six pence of that siluer aboue mentioned to the Selectmen:

and Mr William pirkins paid ten shilings of it to the Selectmen.

Reseiued of Mr William pirkins ten shilings in siluer for the land as he bought of the Toune in the yere 1687 we say reseiued by the Selectmen of Topsfield: which was parte of the pay for the said land:

Ephraim Dorman in the name of the rest of the Selectmen of Topsfield dat 23d decemr 1687.

this is a true Copye of mr William pirkins his reseignt taken and entered by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Boston 22d nouember: 1687 Reseiued of Thomas pirkins Constable of the Toune of Topsfield: eightene pounds nine shillings and 1 penny in full for the Cuntry Rate of that Toune: Reseuied for the use of John Vsher Esqr Treasurer P Mikell Perrey.

this is a true copy taken and entered by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

witnes: Elisha Perkins

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 17 of January 1687.

Leint John Gould Liut Thomas Baker Ens Jacob Toune are Chosen to goe and treet with Doctr John fisk about that troble as lately did arise: by the said fisk his sewing of our Selectmen of Topsfield ye 12th of this instant January 1687 before Phillip Nelson Esqr one of his Maiestes Justes of pece in the County of Essix whare by the said Justes gaue Judgment against the Selectmen for a rate made in the yere 84 by the said Selectmen to thares or the Toune's grat damage to the ualew of three or four pounds in siluer or thare abouits the Toune takeing it in

Consideration to preuent firther charg at law haue giuen full power to the aboue named men to agree with the said fisk: or to prosed a cording to law as thay see good. uoted

and we whose names are under writen being Chose as aboue mentioned ded ingage: If we see cause to proseed in a corse of law with Doctr fisk we doe ingage to bare one quorter parte of what charge may arise.

Thomas Baker  
John Gould  
Jacob Towne

This is a true Copy taken and entred P me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Witnes William Howlett  
John Smith

At a lawfull meting of the Select me[n] the 15th fabruary 1687.

Capt John How is Chosen to prefer a petesyon to the County Courte next insewing in the behalf of our Toune to have our grate bridg maintained by the County.

At a lawfull Toune metting the 3d of June 1689.

Leiut Thomas baker was chosen the Toune's representive to goe to the preasent Counsell for safty of the people and Conseruation of the peace. To act for the publick good and welfare and safty of This Colony prohibbiti[ng] any act or thing that may haue any tendencey to the infringment of any of our Charter priuiledgis what so euer. uoted

July 2 1689 at a lawfull yearly toune meeting for the Choice of Toune offisers Ensigne dorman is chosen toune clarke. uoted

Leiut Baker and Leiut gould and sergt John Houey mr Tobiiah pirkins

and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for this yere to order the prudentialls for the good of the Toune for this yere ensewing the alionation of land exsepted. uoted

Mr Timmothy Pirkins is Chosen Cunstable for the yere insewing.

uoted

Ens Jacob Toune and Jacob Peabody is Chosen serueiers for this yere.

uoted

the Toune haue mannfested by uote that the serueiers shall take the Care of all the bridgis in the Toune.

uoted

Corpll danniell Ridington and Ephraim Wilds are Chosen fence uewers for this yere.

uoted

At a lawfull Toune meting the 21t of sept 1689, by uertue of a warrant from maior appleton for Jurymen to sarue at the next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich on the last tuesday of this instant september, Capt John How is Chosen to sarue on the Jury of trialls.

uoted

and John prichet is Chosen grand Juryman.

uoted

at a lawfull Toune meeting the 30th of october 1689.

Sargt Isaac Easty senr is Chosen Commissioner to Joyne with the selectmen to take an account of the Toune's estat and to conuey it to mr John Phillips Treusurer.

uoted

Reseuied of mr William Pirkins an account of seauentene shilings in worke which he did for the Toune I say reseuied by us selectmen of Topsfield dat ye 20th march 1689.

Samuell Houlet in the name of the rest of ye selectmen of Topsfield.

This is a true copy taken and entered P Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

### Creadit

an aCount of what is due to the Toune from Leut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Ens Jacob Toune for what thay recouered of men by setelling of thare bounds by agreement or other ways in the behalfe of the Toune as thay weare impowered.

due to the Toune for what thay reseiuied of Corpll Thomas perly twelve shillings half mony. due to the Toune for what thay reseued of John prichet two pound fifteene shillings.

Leiut baker reseued the whole.

due to the Toune for what they reseiuied of mr Timmothy pirkins, one pound fife shillings and six pence, ten shilling and six pence siluer.

due to the Tou[n]e for what Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt How and Ens Jacob Toune reseiuied of the parters which is due to the Toune in siluer for thar conferming the bounds of thar lands.

10-00-00

10 : fabru : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . rec with with all as are here concerned and all acounts clerid with all exsept Ens Jacob Toune.

15 : fabru : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Rec with Ens Jacob Toune and due to the Toune in siluer one pound four shillings and eight pence.

01-04-08

and in pay fife shillings 00-05-00

15 : fabru : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . upon arecconing betwene Ens Jacob Toune and Leiut Baker the said Leiut baker ownes himselfe indebted to the Toune in pay eightene pence.

00-01-06

and in siluer three shillings 00-03-00

22 March 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Rec with ye Leiut Baker upon ye acount of his goeing Representitiue from ye beging of ye world to this day and ye said Baker

set of twenty shilings of what he owed ye Towne for what he and Capt How and Ens Towne reseued of Joseph putman for confirming his grants of land and yit there remaines due to him one pound two shiling and six pence. 01-02-06

and Leut Baker ows ye Towne yit upon ye confirmasision of said putmans land for what he reseued of said putman in pay as siluer one pound ten shilings. 01-10-00

and ye aboue said How and Towne doth yit owe there proportion to ye Towne upon ye aboue said acount.

Rec ye 14th of october 1695 with Leut Baker and all accounts clerid upon all accounts betwene ye Towne and mr Baker exscept the charge at nubary Court ye last september: and thare remaines due to ye Towne one pound ten shilings as siluer upon ye acount of what he reseued for mr Joseph putman.

The Touns debts paid as foloweth.

payd to Leut Thomas baker for haueing the rates confermed by the Justisis four shillings two in mony and two in pay. 00-04-00

payd to Leuetenent Thomas Baker for goeing deabutyne in pay 02-00-00

payd to Leut Thomas Baker by Capt How on the Tounes acount for haueing the aboue mentioned rates confermed by the Justisis in mony. 00-02-00

payd to Corpil smith by the hand of the selectmen to pay the Justisis exspence by Leut Thomas Baker in siluer. 00-03-06

paid to Lieut Thomas Baker and Capt How and John prichet for perambuliting with Ipswich men on the a gremen line nine shilling in pay and leut Thomas baker doth in iage

to pay John pricet thre shillings it was for the loss of two days apece.

00 09-00

payd to Capt How ten shillings seauen in siluer and three in pay for goeing to boston to procure the honered Gouerner Brodstrets Testimony two shillings of this siluer was payd to said How by Ens Jacob Toune.

00-08-00

00-02-00

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  paid to the Selectmen and thare orders in the behalfe of the Toune by Capt How two pound fourtene shillings and eight pence in siluer. 02-14-08

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Rec in the behalfe of the Toune with Capt How upon mony acount and all accounts Clerd from the begining of the world to this day fiften shillings of the aboue mentioned siluer as the selectmen reseued of Capt How seauen shillings of it was paid Leut gould. 00-07-00 and fwe penc (shillings) to Corpil smith and three to sargt Thomas Dorman to pay Cort Charg about widdow fisk. 00-10-06

Leut baker paid Corpil smith two and six pence as it is figered of the aboue mentioned.

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Leiut Thomas Baker payd ninetene s and two pence of Cort Charg a bout widlow fisk in siluer. 00-19-02

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Leiut Thomas Baker paid to the Selectmen in siluer two pound seauen shilling and six pence.

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Rec with Leiut Thomas Baker in the behalfe of the Toune and all accounts clerid upon mony account from the begining of the world to this day.

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . paid to leuetent: Thomas baker and sargt Thomas

dorman and Capt John How for laying out sargt samuell Houlets land and mr William pirkins his land eighteue pence a pece. 00-04-06

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Rec with Capt How in the Tounes be half on pay acount and due in pay to him. 00-04-06

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  Recconed with Leut Thomas baker in the Touns behalf and all accounts clerid and due to the Toune in pay nine shillings 00-09-00 and he paid it as foloweth.

to mr Tobiah pirkins for going to salem in pay. 00-03-00

10 : fab : 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Leiut Baker was ordered to pay mr Tobiah pirkins 3s and sargt Thomas dorman eightene pence and Capt How four and six pence and Ephraim dorman two shillings for goeing to bradford. 00-02-00 and all acounts clerid with all aboue mentioned exsept Ens Jacob Toune and mr william pirkins, and we find Ens Jacob Toune paid in Cort charg and siluer. 02-02-00

Capt How was alowed for Cort charg and for prefering the Tounes peteson to the gouerner in siluer and pay and he was payed. 00-14-06

Leiut Thomas baker Constable was allowed by the selectmen in the yere 89 three shilling in siluer as the rates fell shorte. 00-03-00

5th Janu : 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Leiut Baker paid to Ephraim Dorman thirty shilings siluer. 01-10-00

it was dun by order of ye Towne treasurer 24 shiling was of what ye Towne owed to capt How and he owed it to Ephraim Dorman and ye other six shilings was owing to Ephraim Dorman in a towne rate all which was ordered by ye Towne treasurer and Capt How.

Reseiued of Thomas Pirkins Con-

stable of Topsfield in graine and transportation and fife pounds paid ye selectmen of Topsfield which weare alowed them by seations of the peace ye 14th of march 1688 I say in the whole nine pounds foure shills six pence happenny and is the Toune of Topsfields proportion to the County rate for essix. I say reseiued by me John Higgison treasurer for Essix.

Salem date 17th aprill 1688.

this is a true Copy taken and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

Boston may the 13th 1686 Reseuied of Elisha pirkins Constable of Topsfield the som of three pounds and fiftene shillings in mony which with seauen pounds rate pay: payd to Capt Clap by order or mony to his satisfaction and other discounts for troppers etc: is in full for all rates due to the Cuntry from that Toune for the yere 1685 I say reseued in full by Samuell Nowell Treasurer.

this is a true Copy taken and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

21 of may 1688 at a lawfull Toune meeting by order of the gouerner and Counsell Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen Constable for this yere till an other be sworne in the roome.

sargent Easty and sargent Thomas Dorman and Sargent samuell Houlet and William Auerill senr and Mr William pirkins and Corpil Daniell Ridingtun are Chosen select men for this yere.

and Mr Tobiah pirkins is Chosen Commisyoner for this yere.

Boston 27 Nouember 1688 Reseued

of mr John Harris on a count of Thomas Baker Constable of the Toune of Topsfield ninetene pounds four shilings and three pence in full for the Cuntry rate of that Toune for John Vsher esqr, Treasurer P Mickell Perry. £19-4-3

This is a true copy taken and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 14 of gennuary 1689 : 90.

Capt John How and father John Wilds are chosen and impowered to gather up all the a reares of mens proportions to mr Capens salary ex-septing those as weare Committed to Corll William smith and if any man refuse to pay we giue them full power to prosicute such delinckyents a cording to law at Courte and from Courte to Courte till thay recouer them exsept the Toune sees Just cause to the Contrary. uoted

Whareas thare was a Toune rate made and deliuered to Lieut Thomas Baker when he was Constable in sir Edmon Andreus his time: and his power as Constable ceased before he had gathered up the Rate and the said Baker desired power from the Toune to finnish his work in gathering up the rate: The Tou[n]e doth thare fore giue the said Baker pour to goe on with his worke as the law doth direct him. uoted

ye Toune haue agreed that our yearely Toune meeting shall be on the first tuesday in march as formerly. uoted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 7 may 1689 the Toune hath manifested by uote that thay are willing to Chuse a man a cording to order from the Honered Counsell. (the above

vote was blotted out with ink and in the margin the following words written) thes three lines weare mended by note.

At a lawfull meeting of the free men and free houlders and souldiers of Topsfield the 7 may 89 thay haue by uote vnanimosly declared that thay are wilng to Chuse a man to goe to boston to Joyne aduise and Consult with the Counsell of safty about reasumeing the former gouernment and act acording to Charter preuelidgis the gouernment set up by the Choyce of the free men in 86.

Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen as a boue mentioned. uoted

At a lawfull Toune meeting ye 14th of gennuary 1689 or 90 upon information of some discontent among some of our neighbours and frinds of Boxford about seates in the meeting house. The Toune haue agreed to chuse a commity to treete with Boxford or a commity in thare Touns behalfe: to understand thare agreuences: and also we giue our Commity full power to seate people of our Toune and of thare Toune to content a cording to agreement as nere as may be that peace and loue may be continuued betwene the Touns. uoted

Leiut John Gould and Leiut Thomas Baker and Ens Jacob Toune and sargt Isaac Easty and sargt John Houey are Chosen a Commity as aboue speasified. uoted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 4th of february 1689-90.

the Toune haue agreed to Chuse a man to Joyne with the Constable to gather the rates as is due to the Toune from Edward Nearland. uoted

Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen to Joyne with the Constable as aboue speasified. uoted

At a generall Towne meeting hild ye 4 of march 1689 or 90.

Ensigne Ephram Dorman is Chosen Towne Clarke for ye yeare insueing.

Ens Jacob Toune is Chosen Cunstable for this yere. uoted

Corpll Danniell Ridington and Thomas Pirkins sargt Thomas Dorman and sargt sammuell Houlet and Corpll samuell standly are Chosen Select men for this yere. uoted

Leiut Thomas Daker [Baker] is Chosen to serue on the Jury of triall at the next Court houlden at Ipswich. uoted

sargt John Houey is Chosen grand Jury man for this yere ensewing. uoted

Isaac Eastye iunr and Timmothy Pirkins iunr and Isaac peabody are Chosen seruaiers of high ways for this yere. uoted

Elisha pirkins and William Toune are Chosen fence uewers for this yere ensewing. uoted

Leiut Thomas Baker Ephraim Dorman and sargt Houey and Leiut John gould are Chosen a commity to reuew the line formerly setteled with Rowly and now to reuiue it with Boxford it being the bounds betwene Topsfield and Boxford. uoted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 4 march 1689 or 90.

Daniell Borman and sargt John Houey and William Auerill senr and Isaac peabody are Chosen a commity to treet with Ens Jacob Toune and Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How about what thay haue dun a bout lands and what they haue procured for the Toune a cording to

toune order and make returne to the the Toune. uoted

Corpll John Curtious and Joseph Toune iunr are Chosen to lay out a way from the Toune Bridge ouer the reuer through the woods to the farmes at blind hole namely the Nickallsis and thare neighbors. uoted

The Toune hath manifested by uote that the rates or proportions that was proportioned by the selectmen (in sir Edmon Andrews his time of gouernment) here for mr Capen for his worke in the minnistry and is not paide to mr Capen the Toune doe giue power to the selectmen to make rates for mr Capen for that time Crosing all that hath all ready paid thare proportions to mr Capen. uoted

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 2 day of aprill 1690.

John Toune is Chosen Constable for the yere insewing. uoted

Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen Collectors to gather up all the areres of what is due to mr Capen excepting only those rates as weare Committed to mr Timmothy pirkins that is the areres of mens proportions as thay weare proportioned to the fullfilling the the Touns ingagment to mr Capens yearly salary. uoted

To preuent damage by rams the selectmen haue ordered that who soe euer finds any rams upon the Common or on ground without fence from the eight-tenth day of august to the first of nouember any man of our Toune shall haue power and leberty to take such rams as a boue said except thay be sofesiently peched: and cry them and if no owner apers in twelue days thay are to prise the ram and allow the Toune

the one halfe of the uallew of the said ram and dliuer it to the selectmen for the Towne use in good marchantable pay and then the ram to be his owne: but if the owner apers the owner to haue what was to be allowed to the Toune and the ram to remaine the finders: and this order to stand in force in Topsfield for this yere 12 august 1690. Thomas dorman in the name and with the consent of the rest of the selectmen of Topsfield.

At a lawfull Toune meeting the fifth of septem 1690.

Capt John How is Chosen Commissioner to Joyne with the selectmen to take an acount of the Tounees estat as the law directs.

Mr Zarobabell Endicut is Chosen to serue on the Jury of trialls at next County Courte houlden at Ipswich after the date hereof dat: 5th sept 1690.

at a lawfull meeting of the free-men of Topsfield on the 8d day of nouember 1690 Leiut John Gould was Chosen deabuty to atend this preusent seations at the Gennarall Courte at boston. uoted by papers this meeting was wornd by the selectmen.

Charls Toune ye 20th fabruary 1689-90.

Then Recd of mr Timmothy pirkins Cunstable of Topsfield twenty three pounds nine shilings and two pence in full of the two mony Rates and halfe of said Toune P John phillips treaser.

this is a true Copy taken and entred by mee

Ephraim Dorman Clark  
witnes samuel Howlett Elisha perkins.

Charles Towne ye 7th may 1690.

Then Recd of mr Timmothy pirkins Constable of Topsfield thirty one pounds as mony and is in full of the fine Rates of said Towne that was to be paide in graine P John Phillips Treaser.

This is a true Copy taken and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

witnes John Towne  
Elisha perkins

At a lawfull Toune meeting the 8d of december 1690.

Daniell Ridington is Chosen Clarke of the writs.

the Toune haue manifested by note that thay will pay Leuit Thomas Baker for goeing representative eight weekes acording to Toune order.

Topsfield Aprill: 11th: 82 reckened with and reseued of Samuell Houlet Cunstable for Topsfield on 1678: the full som of 60lb for my rate for ye yere 78 I say reseued P me Jaremiah Hobart.

this is a true Copy taken and entred P me Ephraim Dorman Recorder for Topsfield.

witnes Daniell Redington  
Ephraim dorman iunr

At a lawfull meeting of the free-men of Topsfield the 8th of december 1690.

Leiut John Gould is Chosen deabuty for this preasent seations.

at A Lawfull Towne Meeting ye 3 March 1690 or 91.

Ensigne Dorman was Chosen Recorder for ye yeare insueing. Voted

Capt John How and mr Tobiah Pirkins and Phillip Knight and Jacob Toune iunr and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for this yere to

order the prudensiall afaires of our  
Toune the alionation of land ex-  
septed.

Danniell Clarke is Chosen Con-  
stable for this yere ensewing.

Ephraim Wilds and John Eastye  
are chosen seruayers for highways  
for this yeare ensewing.

Mr Capen requesting a peece of  
land of the Toune the Toune uoted  
that a commity should be chosen to  
uew the said land and make reporte  
to the Toune whether the towne can  
conueniently parte with land to mr  
capen or not.

Leiut Baker and sargt Houey are  
Chosen a commity to uew the land  
a boue said:

Corpl Daniell Ridington is Chose  
to serue on the Jury of trialls at the  
next County Courte to be houlden at  
Ipswich.

sargt Houey and Isaac Peabody  
and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen a  
commity to diuid the land recouered  
of som of salem farmes by Leiut  
Baker and Capt How and Ens Jacob  
Toune the commity are to deuid with  
said Baker How and Toune in the  
Tounes behalfe and make return of  
what land befalls to our Toune.

at a lawfull meeting of ye select-  
men of Topsfield the 24th march  
1690: or 91.

in answer to an apointment of the  
selectmen of salem to goe on peram-  
bulation on the line betwene salem  
and Topsfield the 30 day of this  
instant march: 90: 91 we haue  
Chosen Capt John How and Ensigne  
Toune and Phillip Knight and Wil-  
liam Toune to goe as a boue said.

In Answer to a desire of the gen-

tellmen who are the Selectmen of  
Ipswich to meet with som of our  
Toune at Leiut Thomas Perlys on  
the 25th if faire if not the 27th of  
this instant march: 1690: or 91:  
as we think to goe on perambulation  
on 'the line setteleed from the said  
Perlies to Ipswich riuuer and whare  
as they desire som settelment further  
we know the water by the reuer is  
so high it cannot be dun thare fore  
for perambulation on the line setteleed  
we haue shosen Capt How: and  
Leiut Thomas Baker Corpl Tobiah  
Pirkins and ephraim dorman as aboue  
said.'

The 25th maren 90: or 91: Leiut  
Baker Capt How and mr Tobiah  
Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman did  
goe on perambulation with Ipswich  
men and straitened the line from the  
pond to mr simons his farm with  
markes as foloweth: a whight oake at  
the east end of mr Bakers Pond:  
and from thence to a walnut tree  
marked with a T on the south side:  
and an I on the north side: next a  
little whight oake marked with a T  
on the south side and an : I : on the  
north side: next a whight oake  
marked with a T on the south side  
and : an : I : on the north side: next  
a walnut tree marked with a T on  
the south side and an I on the north  
side: nextly two oakes standing to  
gether a read oake and a blake oake  
and the read oake marked with a T  
on the south side and an : I : on the  
north side: nextly a little read oake  
marked with a T on the south side  
and an I on the north side: and so  
on to the dore post of Jacob foster  
iuner his house: and so on to a  
whight oake in the said fosters feild:  
and so on to mr Simons his farme.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye  
30th of march 1691.

whare as thare is a case commins-  
ed and to be tried at this next Court  
at Ipswich betwene ye Towne and  
Edward Neland Leiut Thomas Baker  
and mr Timmothy Pirkins being in  
the behalfe of the Towne: and if  
we loose the case now we doe agree  
they shall proseed from Court to  
Court till they doe recouer the case  
though it com to ye Gennarall Courte  
and the Toune will bare them out in  
all lawfull suites. uoted

We whose names are under writen  
being apointed to reuew the line for-  
merly setled with Rowly and now to  
reuew it with Boxford: accordingly  
we apointed a time and gaue them  
notis and Boxford men accordingly  
meet with us at Leiut Thomas pear-  
lyes on the 22 day of aprill 1691 but  
thay refused to goe on perambulation  
with us as we profered them by order  
from our Towne of Topsfield.

dat 22 of aprill 1691.

Thomas Baker  
John Houey  
Ephraim Dorman

At a Court held at Ipswich march  
31st 1691. Daniel Ridington being  
Chosen Clark of ye wrts for ye  
Towne of Topsfield is allowed by ye  
Court and confirmed in his office.  
Copia vera as in Ipswich Court Book  
of Reacords as atteste Thomas Wade  
Cler[k].

This is a true Copy taken and  
entred p me Ephraim Dorman Re-  
corder for Topsfield.

at a lawfull Towne meeting the 22  
of may 1691 Sargt Isaac Easty senr.  
is chosen grand Juryman for This  
yeare. uoted

it is ordered that Leiut Gould and

Capt How be Chosen to and fully  
impowered to gather up all that is  
behinde of Mr Capens rates or what  
is his due for the despencing of the  
word of god in Topsfield according to  
Towne agreement with Mr Capen for  
two yeares in sir Edman Andreus his  
time of gouernment selectmen being  
forbiden in that time to make rates  
for minnisters whareby selectmen  
then didnot sine them as rates but  
only as mens proportions of thare due  
to the minnisters which was dun by  
the selectmen according to Towne  
agreement as will apere by Topsfield  
Towne Book of records: uoted

Ens Jacob Towne doth enter his  
contrary desent to this uote.

It is ordered that the selectmen be  
impower to Chuse a commity to  
settle a line betwene any of our  
frinds that hath land in boxford  
Joyneing or bordering upon our  
Common as hath bene formerly dun,  
and to git what testimonys thare is  
to be had to proue the former settle-  
ment of a line with Rowly and Tops-  
field. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of the select-  
men of Topsfield ye 29 of may 1691.  
by order from ye Towne we haue  
Chosen Leiuet John Gould and Leiut  
Thomas Baker Capt John How and  
Ens Jacob Towne and Corpil Tobiiyah  
Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman to git  
what testimony thare is to be had to  
proue the former settlement of a line  
betwene Rowly and Topsfield and  
also to renew and establish the  
bounds formerly settleed betwene  
Topsfield Common and Robbart  
Smiths land: and the Community aboue  
named exsepting Lieut Thomas  
Baker are impowered to renew and  
establish the bounds formerly set-

tleed betwene Topsfield Common and the said Leiut Bakers land as he bought of Dockr Crosbey and the maior part of the Commity agreeing in any act befor mentioned shall be counted ualued.

Jacob Towne iunr  
in the name and by the order of the selectmen of Topsfield.

At a lawfull towne meeting the 25th of august 1691. Leiut Thomas Baker was Chosen Comitioner to Joyne with the selectmen to take an acount of the Towne estat as the law direct.

at a lawfull towne meeting the 21 Sept 1691. Corpll John french is Chosen to serue on the Jury of trialls at the next seations at Ipswich.

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 22 of december 1691. Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen aturnies in the Towne behalf to defend and asist the Constables John Towne and Daniell Clarke being both consernd in troble relating to Edward Nearlande contending with the Towne as to Township and on refuseing paying of his rates due to our Towne.

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 22 of dec 1691. Capt John How and Corpll Tobiiah Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen Collecters to gather up the areares of mr Capens rates or mens proportions due to mr Capens salliry as was proportioned in sir Edmon Andreues his time as weare not committed to Constables to gather and see them paid to mr Capen and the Towne will bare them out in all thare leagall preseeding in the gathering of them till thay are gathered.

### The yearely meeting.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the i day march 1691-92 it bein theiare Genirall Towne meeting Ensigne Dorman was Chosen Clerke for ye yeare insueing.

Leint Thomas Baker sargt Houey Corpll Tobiiah Pirkins Corpll Ridington Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen to order the prudentiall afaires of our Towne for this yeare ensewing the allionnation of land only exspected.

Ephraim Wilds is Chosen Constable for the yeare ensewing.

Corpll french and John Robison senr and Joseph Towne iunr the widows son and Isaac Easty iunr are Chosen serueyers of highways for the yeare ensewing.

also Corpll Standly is Chosen serueyer for the yeare ensewing.

Capt How and John Anerill is Chosen fence uowers for the yeare ensewing.

at the request of Capt How to the Towne to setell his bounds of his land acording to his deed and that for the conuenyancey of the seting of his fence he desires som rods of land may be changed in answer to his desire the Towne haue Chosen Leiut gould and Isaac Peabody to settel his bounds and to chang a few rods of land prouided the said How lays doun as good and as conuenient euery ways with quannty and qnalaty.

and at the request of Corpll french to ye Towne for the exchang of a small peece of land only for the straightiening of his fence in answer thare unto the Towne haue chosen Sargt Houlet and old father wilds to change as aboue said prouided the

said french lays doun that which is  
as conuenient and for quanity and  
quality. uoted.

in answer to sargt Houeys desire  
for the renewing and settelling his  
bounds Joyneing to the Common in  
answer thare unto ye Towne haue  
Chosen Capt How and sargt Thomas  
Dorman and Isaac Peabody to renew  
and setell bound with sargt Houey  
acording to his grant orderd Joyne-  
ing to the common. uoted.

Isaac Peabody is Chosen to sarue  
on the Jury of trialls at the next  
Courte houlden at Ipswich. uoted.

at the desire of william smith in  
the behalfe of his mother and his  
brother Joseph The Towne doth a  
quit and discharge them of the par-  
senag a quiting them from all ingag-  
ments in the leace and takes it in to  
thare poseation as it is now in being  
only the widdow smith hath the lib-  
borty of the hous and orchard till  
mickelmas nex for sweping the  
meeting house if she seese cause to  
stay so long but in case the Towne  
sees cause to improue one end of the  
house then the said widdow is to  
haue the leborty of but one end of  
the hous as aboue said. uoted.

At the request of mr Capen ye 7  
march 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  ye selectmen renewed mr  
Capens bounds of land: a stake  
westward nere Capt Hows: from  
thence to a blacke oake northwardly:  
from thence to another oak about the  
middle of the line and from thence  
to an elme eastwardly from thence  
to an ash nere mr Pirkins his land:  
and from thence to the stake aboue  
said.

Thomas Baker  
Ephraim Dorman  
Tobiah Pirkins

Daniell Ridington  
Selectmen.

At a lawfull Towne meeting the  
14th march 1691 or 2 it was pro-  
pounded to the Towne whether the  
Towne would Chuse men to meet  
with Ipswich men at thare desire  
about a line as thay spake of from  
ye mouth of william Houlets Brooke  
to the southermost parte of Mr  
Bakers pond ye Towne Consedering  
that it was other wise settled and  
that the Towne haue gon on peram-  
bulation twice and no longer than  
the last yeare [and also that your  
select mens owne grants of Topsfield  
Towne ship saith nothing of the  
mouth of william Houlets brook  
neither of the southermost parte of  
the pond, *the foregoing is crossed  
out in the original,*] tharefor the ye  
Towne uoted the neggitue that thay  
will not send men. uoted.

Corpll Johu French is Chosen  
Commissioner to cary ye nominations  
to the sheare Towne: by the free-  
men. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free-  
men ye 16th of may 1692.

Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen  
Deabuty for ye next seations of ye  
Gennarall Court to be houlden at  
Boston. uoted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye  
26th iuly 1692.

The Towne haue Chosen sargt  
Thomas Dorman a Commissioner to  
Joyne with ye selectmen to take an  
account of the Towns estate person-  
all and reall and proseed as ye gen-  
narall Courtes act directs. uoted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye  
20th sept 1692.

Capt John Gould was Chosen to  
serue on the Jury of trialls at ye next

County Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

uoted.

the Towne haue Chosen Corpil John French to serue on the grand Jury at ye next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

uoted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 14th of december 1692.

the Towne did agree to allow John Toune Constable in a Towne rate what the selectmen do Judg conuenient for what Josiah wood and mr Zarobabell Endicut was rated in the twenty rates as was Committed to him to gather it being doubtfull whether it is recoverable or not.

uoted.

and firther the Towne did manifes that the selectmen should order pay to the men that bult the pound a cording to bargen, in a Towne rate.

uoted.

We whose names are under writen being apointed by the Towne of Topsfield at a generall Towne meeting the first day of march 1691-92 to setell bounds betwene Capt John How and the Towne Common: haue done it as foloweth: uiz: first we did run about fife rod from goodman Clarks corner bounds to a stake at the east corner: and from that stake upon a straight line ranging with an elme up to a forked whight oake tree on the northerly corner of that land: and from that white oake tree upon a straight line to the fence as it now stands and then as the fence runs downe to a stake and heape of stones which is a bounds betwene sd Capt How and daniell Clarke by the old carte way as witnes our hands this 4 day march 1691-92.

John Gould senr  
Isaac Peabody

Copya uarya atest Ephraim Dorman Clark.

At a lawfull Towne meeting by order of athoryty on the 30th of december 1692, Ens Jacob Toune is Chosen to serue on the grand Jury at Salem and John Prichet and Corpil John Curtious are Chosen to serue on the Jury of tryalls at the Courte of assises to be houlden at Salem ye 3d day of Jeanuary 1692 or 93.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting of the Towne of Topsfeild the 7: day march 1692.

Ensigne Ephrom Dorman was chosen Towne Clarke for ye yeare insueing.

mr William Pirkins is Chosen Constable for the yeare ensewing. uoted.

Capt John Gould sargt Thomas Dorman and sargt Samuell Houlet Ens Jacob Toune and Corpil John Gould are Chosen selectmen for the yeare ensewing. uoted.

Corpil Tobiah Pirkins is Chosen Commisioner for asesment for this yeare. uoted.

Corpil John French is Chosen Graniury man for this yeare. uoted.

mr Timmothy Pirkins is Chosen to serue on the Jury of tryalls for the next Court to be houlden at Ipswich. uoted.

Sargt Eastye and Thomas Pirkins are Chosen tithing men for this yeare. uoted.

Jacob Toune iunr and Beniamen Bigsbee and John Auerill are chosen serueyars for hye ways for this yeare. uoted.

Corpil Daniell Ridington and Elisha Pirkins are Chosen fence newers for this yeare. uoted.

Sargt John Houey and Daniell

Ridington are Chosen to new the old highway from John willds his hous to mile brook and stote it as it may answer the end according as it was at first laid out and further to lay it out from Samuell Houlets to William Houlets. uoted.

Sargt John Honey and Corpl Daniell Ridington are Chosen to lay out seauen akers of upland to Ephraim Dorman as was formerly granted to his father Dorman on the southwest of pye brook as it doth apere by Ipswich Reckords. uoted.

Sargt Houey and Corpl Daniell Ridington are Chosen to lay out a high way for John Androus from his upland on the north of Ephraim Dorman's land ouer the Brook to the upland on the west. uoted.

Sargt Samuell Houlet and Isaac Peabody are Chosen to straiten mr Timmothy Pirkins his line on the southwest side of his land by the meeting house which is betwene his land and the parsonage land and to leue out as much land as thay take in to the said Pirkins. uoted.

the 11th march 1692 mr William Pirkins was sworne Cunstable and Sargt Isaac Easty was sworne tithing man and Ephraim Dorman was sworne Towne Clarke by Capt Thomas Wade Justis of the peace and here entered by his order.

In answer to an apointment by the Selectmen of Ipswich to ye Selectmen of Topsfield to chuse men to meeete ye gentlemen apointed by them to renew the bounds betwene Ipswich and Topsfield as we did apprehend might be thare meening: accordingly ye Selectmen apointed Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Ephraim Dorman and

scordingly we here named on ye 20th day of february 1692 or 3 meet with ye gentlemen of Ipswich at ye house of Jacob Fosters and we agreed and renewed ye bounds from mr Baker pond so caled to mr Simonds his farme so called: and then we aboue named demanded of ye Gentlemen of Ipswich to renew the bounds round ye northeast end of mr Simonds his farme so caled to the brook whare it runs out of ye farme according to agreement: but thay refused but presumed to run the line cross the said farme: though we forewarned them and protested against thare so doeing: so we aboue named went and newed and renewed the antient bounds about the northeast end of ye said farme to ye brook as aboue said whare we meet with the Gentlemen of Ipswich as went cross the farme: and then we newed the brook from the farme to the riuier which was confirmed to be the bounds betwene said townes by the Committees of both Townes when thay settied the line that is the brook from the farme to the reuer.

as witnes our hands.

Thomas Baker

John How

Ephraim Dorman

we whose names are under written being apointed by the Towne to lay out a high way for John Andrew for his use and bennifit: scordingly we haue dun it: from the west corner of John Andrew his upland called the Plump ouer the Brook in the old way and so through the meadow which Sargent John Honey Seur Claines to be his and so to the nere-ist place of upland to wards the northwest:

dat 21 march 1692 or 3.

John Houey, Senr  
Daniell Ridington

varya Copia atest Ephraim Dorman Clark.

Sargt John Houey and Daniell Ridington being apointed to lay out a high way from Sargt Samuell Houlets by John Wilds his house so to William Houlets brook accordingly thay haue dun it begining at the country roode and along on the south side of Samuell Houlets land and betwene mr Capens land and the said boulets land and so on the south side of muddy spring: so along the old carte way to John Wilds his land: and so betwene Corpil French his house and barne: so along the old way to the north side of Daniell Ridingtons bounds by John Wilds his gate and so as the way now lyeth by ye said Wilds his house and so along the old way to mile Brook bridg and still along the old way to William Houlets brook: trees being marked in sartin places the most of the way this was taken from thare owne mouths.

dat 21 march 1692 or 3.  
atest Ephraim Dorman Town Clark.

we whose names are under writen being apointed to lay out seauen akers of upland to Ephraim Dorman as was granted to Thomas Dorman now desesed as aperes by Ipswich reccords accordingly we haue dun it on the south west side of Pye brook and is bounded as foloweth begining at a stake with a heap of stones at it nere the said dormans house by his dam: and so bounded by the brook and low land or meadow all along up to John Andrews his meadow which is the northeast bounds: and then

along by John Andreus his meadow to a black oake tree marked with a heape of stones at it which is the north west bounds and so on a straight line from the said black oake to a stake with a hepe of stones at it nere the parsonage meadow being bounded on the common on the south west: and so on a straight line from the said stake to the stake by the said dain being bounded on the common on the southeast.

dat 21 march 1692 or 3.

John Houey Sener  
Daniell Ridington

Wee whos names are under writen being Chosen by the Towne to straighten a line for mr Timmothy Pirkins: on the south side of ye meeting hous lot and accordingly we haue dun it: begining at the north west corner next Pine swamp from a stake with a heape of stones: runing southeast upon a straight line to a little whight oake marked with a heape of stones at the bottum: and from thence upon a straight line to a grate whight oake bending inward to mr Pirkins land and a heape of stones at the bottum: and from thence upon a straight line to a stake with a heape of stones at it: and so upon a straight line to the corner stake with a heape of stones at it the southeast corner.

dat ye 20 march 1692 or 3.

Samuell Houlet  
Isaac Peabody

this is a true Copy taken and entered by me Ephraim [Dorman] Recorder for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 1 of may 1693.

the Towne haue manifested that

thay will stand by all thare Constables in all thare lawfull proseedings in gathering of rates of Edward Nearland as was committed to them to gather of him: ye Constables names are John Towne and Daniell Clarke and Ephraim Wilds and mr William Pirkins: unanimously uoted.

Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen by the Towne to assist ye Constables in the Townes behalfe as aboue written by impleading Edward Nearland and defending the Townes Right. uoted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 8 of may 1693 Sargt Thomas Dorman is Chosen Gran Jury man and Sargt John Houey and John Robison is Chosen to serue on the Jury of trialls all to serue at ye Grat Court of assize to be houlden at Ipswich ye 9 of this instant may. uoted.

At the generell Court oct 1 1645 an order conserning Topsfeild for as much as this court has formerly granted that ther should be a uilidge upon Ipswich riuier at or nere a place called the new medowes and for as much as certaine of the Inhabitants of Ipswich who haue farmes emproued nere there unto and doe desire that a minester might be settled there to despence the word to the present Inhabitants and to such others as shall place them selues at the said uillidge whome yet not withstanding they are noe wayes able in any comfortable maner to maintane a minester and to defray other nessasary charges of the place if with all they should be Liable to all other rates and publique Charges of the Towne of Ipswich this Court doth therefore herby order that either the whole Towne of Ipswich shall equily con-

tribute with such other Inhabitants as haue Lands In or nere the said uillidge to the maintinance of a minester and all other publique Charges Incident to such a uillidge or else the fore said Inhabitants that haue Lands nere the said uillidge and shall contribute to the maintenance of a minester there and other nessasary charges shall be ffreed from all maner of rates charges or contributions to the Town of Ipswich for thir Land or stock In or belonging to the said uillidge A true Copie of the Records Ex. Isace Addington Secritary.

Copia uare examined P. P. Stephen Suell clark.

A True Copy taken and entered P. me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull Towne meting ye 24th of may 1693 the inhabitence of Topsfield did unanimously agree that who euer of them was chosen deabuty or representatiue for the Gennarall Court should haue but twelue shillings pir week continnewing the whole time of the seation or seations as thay are chosen for that is two shillings a day in siluer. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free houlders and inhabitence of Topsfield ye 24 of may 1693 a Cording to worrent Capt John Gould was Chosen representatiue to serue at ye next Gennarall Courte to be houlden at Boston part of ye time. uoted.

and Leiut Thomas Baker was Chosen representatiue as aboue said to serue the other parte of ye time taking turns one at a time as thay agree. uoted.

Ensigne Dorman Capt John How and Corp'l Tobigaah Perkins is Chos-

dat 21 march 1692 or 3.

John Houey, Senr  
Daniell Ridington

varya Copia atest Ephraim Dorman Clark.

Sargt John Houey and Daniell Ridington being apointed to lay out a high way from Sargt Samuell Houlets by John Wilds his house so to William Houlets brook accordingly thay haue dun it begining at the country roode and along on the south side of Samuell Houlets land and betwene mr Capens land and the said houlets land and so on the south side of muddy spring: so along the old carte way to John Wilds his land: and so betwene Corpil French his house and barne: so along the old way to the north side of Daniell Ridingtons bouuds by John Wilds his gate and so as the way now lyeth by ye said Wilds his house and so along the old way to mile Brook bridg and still along the old way to William Houlets brook: trees being marked in sartin places the most of the way this was taken from thare owne mouths.

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along by John Andreus his meadow to a black oake tree marked with a heape of stones at it which is the north west bounds and so on a straight line from the said black oake to a stake with a hepe of stones at it nere the parsonage meadow being bounded on the common on the south west: and so on a straight line from the said stake to the stake by the said dam being hounded on the common on the southeast.

dat 21 march 1692 or 3.

John Houey Sener  
Daniell Ridington

Wee whos names are under writen being Chosen by the Towne to straighten a line for mr Timmothy Pirkins: on the south side of ye meeting hous lot and accordingly we haue dun it: begining at the north west corner next Pine swamp from a stake with a heape of stones: runing southeast upon a straight line to a little whight oake marked with a heape of stones at the bottum: and from thence upon a straight line to a grate whight oake bending inward to mr Pirkins land and a heape of stones at the bottum: and from thence upon a straight line to a stake with a heape of stones at it: and so upon a straight line to the corner stake with a heape of stones at it the southeast corner.

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At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 8 of may 1693 Sargt Thomas Dorman is Chosen Gran Jury man and Sargt John Houey and John Robison is Chosen to serue on the Jury of trialls all to serue at ye Grat Court of assize to be houlden at Ipswich ye 9 of this instant may. uoted.

At the generell Court oct 1 1645 an order conserning Topsfeild for as much as this court has formerly granted that ther should be a uillidge upon Ipswich riuier at or nere a place called the new medowes and for as much as certaine of the Inhabitants of Ipswich who haue farmes emproued nere there unto and doe desire that a minester might be settled there to despence the word to the present Inhabitants and to such others as shall place them selues at the said uillidge whome yet notwithstanding they are noe wayes able in any comfortable maner to maintane a minester and to defray other nessasary charges of the place if with all they should be Liable to all other rates and publique Charges of the Towne of Ipswich this Court doth therefore herby order that either the whole Towne of Ipswich shall equily con-

tribute with such other Inhabitants as haue Lands In or nere the said uillidge to the maintinance of a minester and all other publique Charges Incident to such a uillidge or else the fore said Inhabitants that haue Lands nere the said uillidge and shall contribute to the maintenance of a minester there and other nessasary charges shall be ffreed from all maner of rates charges or contributions to the Town of Ipswich for thir Land or stock In or belonging to the said uillidge A true Copie of the Records Ex. Isace Addington Secritary.

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At a lawfull meeting of ye free houlders and inhabitence of Topsfield ye 24 of may 1693 a Cording to worrent Capt John Gould was Chosen representatiue to serue at ye next Gennarall Courte to be houlden at Boston part of ye time. uoted.

and Leiut Thomas Baker was Chosen representatiue as aboue said to serue the other parte of ye time taking turns one at a time as thay agree. uoted.

Ensigne Dorman Capt John How and Corpl Tobigaah Perkins is Chos-

en to drae vp with or nebiors of Ipswich fairmes a petition or request as thay see Good to ye Generell Court for ye [Line to be setteled betwene Ipswich and Topsfield—*crossed out in the original.*] satellment of Topsfield with thos preuileges granted by the Genarall Court. uoted.

Capt John How is Chosen to prefer the peteson to the honered Genarall Court as shall be drawen up and prefered to ye honered Genarall Court in the behalfe of Topsfield relating to Genarall Courte Grants of Topsfields preuelidgis relating to our Township and minnistry. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of ye freehoulders of Topsfield ye 11 of September 1693.

Capt John Gould is Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at the next county Courte to be houlden at Newbury. uoted.

the Towne hath manifested by note that goodwife Nearland should be Complained of for slandering the wholl Towne of Topsfield and that what the selectmen haue ordered to that end should be prosocuted to efect. uoted.

The Towne by uote doe declare that complaint be made at the Court against Capt Thomas Wade Justis of ye peace for discorridgng of our Constables and threatening of them for the execusion of thare ofice in gathering thare rates as aperes both by his warreuts and atachments and ye selectmen are apointed to doe it them selues or Chuse men for that end. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of the freehoulders and ye inhabitence of Topsfield ye 19 of Sept 1693 Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen Deabuty to serue

at ye next Gennarall Court to be houlden at Boston. uoted.

and it was uoted that he should goe for twelue shillings per weeke. uoted.

At a lawfull meting of ye freehoulders of Topsfield ye 24th october 1693 thay did manifest by uote that ye deabuty should sarue for two shilings a day at ye seations of ye Genarell asembly. uoted.

Leiut Thomas Baker was chosen Deabuty to serue at the next Genarell asembly to be houlden at Boston. uoted.

At a lawfull meeting of the selectmen of Topsfield ye 28th march 1693.

Corpll Samuell Standly is Chosen to be a seler of waits and measures for our Towne till thare is another Chosen to that office entered by order of the selectmen. uoted.

Charles Towne 12th iune 1693.

then reseued of Mr Daniell Clarke Constable of Topsfield ye sume of two hundred and one pound one shilling and eight pence in full of said Townes proportion of ye twenty four Thousen Pound Rate.

I say Reseued by me John Phillips Treasurer.

This is a true copy taken and entered P me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark.

At a Genarall Towne meting the 6th of march 1693 or 4. Ensine Dorman is Chosen Clark for the yere in sueing. uoted.

Corpll Tobiiah Perkins and Isaac Peabody and Elisha Perkins and Joseph Towne iunr and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen Selectmen for ye yeare ensewing. uoted.

Isaac Easty iunr is Chosen Con-

stable for ye yeare ensewing. uoted.

Mr Timothy Pirkins senr is chosen a serueyer for highwayes for this yeare and Jacob Towne iunr and John Auerill are likewise chosen seruayers for ye yeare ensewing.

uoted.

Corpll John Curtious and Sargent Thomas Dorman and Sargent Daniell Ridington are Chosen fence uewers for ye yeare ensewing.

uoted.

Sargt Houey and Daniell Clarke and Thomas Towne are Chosen pounders for ye yere ensewing.

uoted.

Sargt Samuell Houlet is Chosen to kepe the pound.

uoted.

Corpll John Gould is Chosen to serue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

uoted.

Thomas Pirkins is Chosen Grand Jury man for this yere.

uoted.

Corpll John Gould and Joseph Easty are Chosen to se that horsis doth not goe on ye Common contrary to law.

uoted.

Sargt Thomas Dorman and John Robison senr are Chosen titlingmen for this yere ensewing.

uoted.

Lieut Baker and Capt John How and Ensigne Jacob Towne and Corpll Tobiah Pirkins and Isaac Peabody are Chosen to run out ye line betwene Salem and Topsfield acording to agreement from ye rock caled Crumwills Rock and so on to settle ye bounds as hath not bine settled and what thay agree upon ye Towne will stand by.

uoted.

Lieut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Ens Jacob Towne are Chosen and Impowered to settle and run out ye line betwene Wenham and Topsfield and what thay

doe ye Towne will stand by. uoted.

upon ye request of Corpll Tobiah Pirkins Capt Gould and Liut Baker are Chosen to renew ye bunds of ye lots on ye south sid of ye reuer next ye Cow Common betwene ye Cow Common and Mr Porters land.

uoted.

The Town haue agreed that Goodman Louewell School Master shall liue in ye Parsonage house this yeare ensewing to kepe schole and swepe ye meeting house.

uoted.

ye Towne haue agreed that upon the request of sauall young men that thay shall haue libberty to set up seates upon ye beames of ye meeting house on thare owne cost and charg.

uoted.

ye Towne haue agreed that If any of our Towne see cause to set up a galliry at ye east end of ye meeting hous for wimmin and maids at thare owne cost and charg and not to darken the windows thay may and haue liberty to build it.

uoted.

the towne haue agreed that if any maids doe agree to raise the backe seat at ye east end of ye meeting hous and the backe seate at ye west end of ye meeting hous at thare owne cost and charg thay haue leborty.

uoted.

ye Selectmen haueing a worrent for a county rate and thare being sum scruples about it: thay desires the Towns aduice whare upon the Towne doe aduise to sospend it for the preasent and thay will bare them harmeles.

uoted.

Know all men by thes preasence and to whom it my conserne that whare as Ephraim Dorman of Topsfield and John Andrus of Boxford in ye County of Essix in Newingland

haue upland and meadow a Joyneing together within ye bounds of Topsfield ye upland upon ye Pine Plaine ye meadow lying in a meadow commonly called 'l'heoflus Swachills meadow on both sids of Pye brook and by a mutuall agreement together for settlement of bounds betwene us to remaine to us and our heirs and asigns for euer: haue agreed as followeth: ye east diuisionall bounds betwene ye aboue said parties of ye upland is a heape of stones nere the path leading to Ipswich farmes a Joyneing to ye Common: and then runing westwardly on a straight line to a stump with a heape of stones lying to it nere ye meadow: and then ye line runing norwestward to a stake standing in ye meadow nere ye upland in ye corner of ye fence as it now standeth: and then from that stake southwestwardly on a straight line to another stake nere the upland which is Topsfield common: the said Andrusis land lying on ye north: and the said Dorman's land lying on ye south all along: and also four akers of meadow which was sould formerly by Thomas Dorman deceased: and now in ye posession of John Andreus lying in the southwardly corner of ye said theoflus swachills meadow so called: we ye aboue said Dorman and Andrus haue settled the bounds of it as followeth: to remaine for euer: which are as foloweth: begining at a stake next ye upland a Joyneing to Topsfield Common and then runing northeastwardly to a stake in ye meadow about seauen rods from a row of springs: and from that stake southeast twenty rods and a halfe to another stake standing in a row of

springs: and then as ye row of springs run to a stake standing at ye nereist corner of ye upland southwestwardly: and then bounded by ye upland to ye first stake spoken of in ye four akers of meadow and then ye said Dorman's meadow a Joyneing to ye four akers aboue said on euery side till it comes to ye upland: dated ye seacond day of January one thousand six hundred ninety three foure: and in ye tift yeare of thare Maiasties Reigne: in confermation hereof we haue set to our hands and seales: signed sealed in yo preasents of us witnessis.

John How senr      Ephraim Dorman  
John Peabody senr      John Andrus  
John Honey senr

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

and entered with ye consent of ye Towne.

we conserued in conformatioun to all aboue writen haue set two our hands.

Ephraim Dorman senr  
John Andrew  
to the truth of all abone righten I doe testify as witnes.

John How  
John Peabody senr  
Topsfield ye 17 march 169 $\frac{1}{2}$ : we whose names are under subscribed being Chosen by ye Toune to measure ye breadth of Mr William Pirkins senr lot it being ten rods broad: and Daniell Clarks two lots twenty rods broade Deen Thomas Houlets lot twenty two rods broad: Isaac Comings senr one lot fluetene rods broad: bounded norwest on ye Cow Common northeaste on ye Reuer meadows south east upon ye land ondividied as ye lotlayers left it and on ye

southwest by ye land of mr Joseph Porters.

John Gould senr  
Thomas Baker

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 23 day of march 1693 or 4.

Corpll Samuell Standly is Chosen Gran Juryman for ye next seations at Ipswich on ye last tuesday of this instant. uoted.

John Prichit is Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next Seations to be houlden at Ipswich on ye last tuesday of this instant march. uoted.

The Selectmen of Topsfield being desired to renew and state a horse way from ye roode as lyeth by old father Wilds his house to goe along by ye mill: acordingly we met on ye 26th day of march 1694: and agreed and renewed and stated ye old way from ye Rode aboue said with ye consent of old father Wilds and mr Timothy Pirkins: from thare diuis-ionall bounds by ye said rode alowing two rods in breadth ye one halfe on old father Wilds his land and ye other halfe on ye said Pirkins his land as thare line runeth towards the north west alowing ye same breadth on both sids ye line till it comes to an apple tree by ye line eight rods short of ye bound tree as is that tree as is ye bounds betwene Leiut Baker and mr Timothy Pirkins and Widdow Auerills lands: and then on a straight line northwardly through ye west corner of said Pirkins his land: and so through ye eastwardly corner of ye said Auerills feild a Joyneing; that ye east side of ye way whare it leues ye said

auerill improued land being two rods from ye said Pirkins his line whare a gat now standeth: and so as ye beaten path is along by the south side of ye mill to ye common houlding ye same breadht that carts may pass if need bee.

Tobiiah Pirkins  
Isaac Peabody  
Ephraim Dorman  
Selectmen of Topsfield.

Copya Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 3 of April 1694.

in answer to an apointment of ye Gentlemen of Salem to goe on perambulation betwene Salem and Topsfield we haue Chosen Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Ens Jacob Towne and Corpll Tobiiah Pirkins and Isaac Peabody to mete ye Gentlelemen of Salem at time and place to efect that worke acording to thare apointment. Ephraim Dorman in ye name of ye rest of ye selectmen of Topsfield.

ye Selectmen haue agreed and Chosen Ephraim Dorman and Elisha Pirkins to renew bounds betwene the Common and mr Baker his farme in Boxford and also to stat a highway beyond Capt Goulds hous through his meadow.

this 12th of march 1693 or 4 we whos names are under writen being chosen by ye Towne to renew or settle bounds with sargt Houey, we went to his house and desired him to show us his Bounds next Topsfield Common: ye wiche he could shew us none: but tould us that he must goe to ye west end of John Andrews his meadow: but could not shew us any bounds thare: and we finding a tree

marked with som stones at it nere ye brook on ye northside of ye brook: ye which is said to be ye corner bounds of lumkins farme: we haue renewed that bounds: and that he shall run from that tree northwest to a little tree by ye meadowside: and so to ye brook and then ye brook to be ye bounds till it come at mr Bakers meadow: this is all we haue dun only we worned Sargt Houey to make no improuement any firther nex ye common then to that bounds and so ye brook as aboue said.

John How  
Thomas Dorman  
Isaac Peabody

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 2 day of may 1694 in answer to an apointment under ye hand of Leut Corlonall Thomas Wade Justis of ye peace for ye renewing of ye line betwene Ipswich and Topsfield in answer thare unto we haue apointed Leut Peabody and Leut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Isaac Peabody to answer ye apointment at time and place and ye maior parte of our men agreeing shall stand.

Ephraim Dorman in ye name of ye rest of ye selectmen of Topsfield.

at a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 2 day of may 1694. Corpil Tobiah Pirkins and Isaac Peabody weare chosen to state a high way from Thomas Perkins his house along by Sargt Daniell Riddintuus to ye Cuntry roade by old father wilds his house. uoted.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 11th of may 1694.

whare as the inhabitence of Salem

Villidg lays Claime to our land on ye south side of ye reuer and haue commised a suit against Corpil John Curtious on that a count: ye Towne haue agreed to stand by Corpil John Curtious in ye defence of his and ye Townes right. uoted.

Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen to defend Corpil Curtious and the Towns Right on ye south sid of ye reuer against the Claims of ye inhabitence of Salem Vilidg till ye cause be ishewed. uoted.

The Towne did declare by uote not to send a deabuty to ye Gennarall Court next to be held at Boston—not knowing but thay might be excused by law Capt Gould and Ephraim Dorman desents as to that uote and also Daniell Borman.

ye Toune by uote doe declare that Sargt Houeys fence on ye south side of ye Brook called Pye Brook shall be pulled up from time to time untill sargt Houey can proue whare his bounds be next ye common. uoted.

Ephraim Dorman with Leiut Baker is chosen to renew leiut Bakers Bounds next ye common by ye said dormans house. uoted.

it was uoted that Sargt Houeys fence aboue said shall stand till ye middle of next June and If he can make out his title to ye satisfaction of ye Selectmen and ye commity consernd and if he cannot or doth not ye commity consernd haue pouer to pull doun his fence and ye Towne will stand by them. uoted.

Elisha Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman being apointed to state a carte way through Capt Goulds meadow and ouer ye fishing brook so caled: thare being a way ordered from ye

meeting house to mr Endicuts farme: and ye way not being stated ouer ye said brook and through ye meadow aboue said we haue stated it as foloweth: we began on ye west side of ye said meadow and marked too young red oaks with heapes of stones at them being about a rod a parte: and we stated ye way to hould ye same breadth along ye old carte way baring half a rod from ye senter of ye old way to ye right and left till it comes about four rods of ye foot of ye horse bridg: and then to inlarge to ye left to include the horse way now in being to ye bridg and also to include ye bridg: and then we allow liberty from ye foot of ye horse bridg on ye east side of ye brook till it comes about one rod and a halfe from ye bridg and then it is stated one rod in breadth along ye old way as it is stated on ye other side: thare being a cherry tree marked with a heape of stones at it: and on ye left sid a stake and a heape of stones at it both on ye side of ye upland on ye east side of ye meadow.

Elisha pirkins  
Ephraim Dorman

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman  
Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free-houlders and other inhabitence allowed by law ye 4th of iune 1694 Leiut Baker was Chosen representatiue to sarue at this Gennarall Court now houlden at Boston. uoted.

Leiut Baker being presant did declare himselfe onwilling to goe.

At a lawfull Towne meting ye 25 of iuly 1694.

Sargt Daniell Ridington and sargt John Houey and sargt Samuel Houlet are Chosen asesers according to

ye Treasurers worrent for our Towne. noted.

The said asesors sargt Houey and sargt Houlet and sargt Ridington were sworne to thare faithfull dis-charge of thare duty as the Court act directs by me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke ye 28th of iuly 1694.

we whose names are under written by order of ye Towne went to Sargt Houey's house and he not being at whome we red our order to his wife and sun Luke and then his son went with us: and we Puled up eight lengths of fence and declared we did it by order of ye Towne: and then before we weare gone came sargt Houey: and we shewed him what we had dun: ye fence wee puled up stood on ye Towne Common on that side of ye brook next long hill this we did on ye 18th of iuly 1694.

John How  
Thomas Dorman  
Isaac Pabody

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free-houlders of Topsfield and others allowed by law ye 7th of September 1694 Thomas Pirkins is chosen grand Juryman to sarue at ye next Court houlden at Nubary the last tuesday of this instant: and Capt John How and sargt Samuell Houlet are Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at the Court aboue said. uoted.

Sargt Houlet propounded for a draine crose the way from his field to mr Capens meadow and ye said Houlet ingaged to make a bridg ouer it and kep it in repaire at his owne cost and charg: the inhabitence here preasent did mannifest thare free consent. noted.

At a lawfull Towne meting ye 10th of october 1694. ye Towne being worne by ye Selectmen to Chuse a Towne Treasurer the Towne finding he should be chosen when ye other offisers are Chosen and thare being but a small aperence the Towne did manifest by uote to suspend it for ye preasent. uoted.

The Towne did agree to isshew the deference betwene ye Towne and Sargt Houey about Sargt Houeys claimes of land in a course of law.

uoted.

and ye Towne did Chuse Capt How and Isaac Peabody and Corpll Tobiiah Pirkins to proseed with Sargt Houey in a corse of law in ye behalfe of ye Towne for ye recouering of ye land as he claimes which ye Towne apprehends to be thare common: or to chuse an aturny for yt end. uoted.

The Towne did allow of Leieu Bakers bills of charg giuen in to ye Selectmen for his serueing Dabuty and ten shilings for his exspence at nubary and for copyyes of Records.

uoted.

and also ye Towne allows Capt Hows bills of charg sixteue shilings for atending at boston and nubary courte. uoted.

and the Toune did agree to allow Corpll Curtious eight shilings for atending att Salem Courte all these bill ware giuen to ye selectmen in ye yeare 1694 and ware allowed and uoted.

Nathniell Auerill desents as to allow ye said Curtious his charg.

The Towne did manifest by uote that our dabuty Leiut Baker should prefer a peteson to ye Honered Genarall Court in this instant october

that Salem should run out ye deuesionall line acording to agreement.

uoted.

We whose names are under writen being apointed by ye Towne to diuid a parsell of land with Leiut Thomas Baker and Ens Jacob Towne and C— John How it being yt land which was in contreuersy formerly with Capt John Putnam we did meet upon ye 16th day of nouember 1694 and deuided ye land and The Towne made choyce of yt part yt Joynes to ye grat ashing swamp for thare share and ye aboue said Baker Towne and How haue ye other parte joyneing to Phillip Knite and others: ye diuisionall bounds betwene ye Towne Common and ye said Baker Towne and How: is about seauenty rods from a walnut tree nere John Nickols iunr begins at a white oake marked with stones at it and from thence on a straight line to an oylenut tree which is Isaac Burtons tree marked and so joyneing to Salem Line this being our mutuall agreement as witnes our hands this 16th of nouember 1694.

Ephraim Dorman

Thomas Baker

Isaac Pabody

John How

Jacob Towne

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark for Topsfield.

The 29 day of may 1694 ye selectmen stated a way from Thomas Pirkins his house to ye roade to old father Wilds his house: we stated ye rode from said Pirkins his hous: bareing two rods in breadth: ye old beten way now in being being ye senter of ye way till we com to mr Bradstreets land whare a gate now standeth and then on ye northeast side of ye gate we marked a white

oake on ye eastwardly side of ye way in mr Bradstreets land by ye gate: and so along to mr Bradstreets bound tree: by cow pen brook so called: being on ye eastwardly side of ye way: and a red oake marked on ye other side against it: being about two rods asunder: ye way bareing ye same breadth all along: and then turneing to ye old ford ouer ye said brook: then betwene a fence on ye right: and a whight oake tree marked on ye left by ye northwest side of ye ford so by ye said fence till it coms to a popler tree marked by ye fence then turneing to ye left in to ye old beten rode and so ye beten rode being ye senter a red oake tree marked on ye left on ye hill: and then against sargt Ridingtons house leuing ye old way to ye right thare being a walnut tree marked on ye left side of ye way: and so on a straight line by ye west corner of sargt Ridingtons barne to ye old way as leads to ye Cuntry rode by father Wilds his hous: bareing ye full breadth all along.

Ephraim Dorman  
Isaac Peabody  
Elisha Pirkins

Selectmen of Topsfield.

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

We whose names are here unto subscribed being apointed by ye seaurall Townes to which we belong uis Topsfield and wenham with full power to make an alteration of that part of ye diuisionall Line betwene our Townes from ye brook at James Moultenes Iland to wards mr Saltin-stalls meadow we haue agreed as foloweth: being met to gether this seauenth day of december an adom-

ing sixtene hundred and ninety foure in order to ye completeing of ye same that whare as in an agreement betwene Topsfield and Wenham: Pigdins meadow so called was included to belong to Wenham and ye Iland commonly caled huckelberrey or Wenham Iland or ye gratest parte of it was included to belong to Topsfield: we haue now agreed for an alteration that ye said Pigdins meadow shall from hence forward belong to Topsfield and ye Iland commonly called huckellbarrey or wenham Iland shall from hence forward belong to Wenham: and ye bounds that are or shall be agreed to be ye bounds of Pigdins meadow till it comes to Beauerly ditch and then ye said ditch till it coms to ye Reuer shall be ye stated bounds betwene our Towns of Topsfield and Wenham: and in witnes whereof we haue here unto sett our hands Interchangably.

Thomas Baker	John Numan
John How	John Pirkins
for Topsfield	Thomas Kimball
	for Wenham

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 18th of decembre 1694. whareas sum of Salem lays Claime to mikell Dwonills land for which ye said Dwonnill is atached: ye Towne did manifest that thay would stand by ye said Dwonill in this case. uoted

Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen in ye behalfe of ye Towne to stand by Mikell Dwonill sen in ye defence of his lands as is Claimed as aboue said.

The Towne did mannifest by uote that all honist debts due from ye Towne to pirtickquillor men in this

yere shall be paid.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 8th day ganuery 1694 or 5. ye Towne haue made choyce of Leiut Thomas Baker to manage Mikell Dwonill senr his cause against Salem farmes and to asosiate to himselfe whom he will to strengthen ye cause and to prosicut it from Court to Court till ye case be ended ye mening is this case now commisned against ye said Dwonill and ye Towne will bare him out in all his lawfull proseedings tharein

John Curtious senr and Joseph Towne iunr we haue layde out away from Isaac Burtons to ye Bridg as foloweth: begining at ye said Burtons and so as ye way now goeth to John Robison his land: and then turning to ye right by a red oake marked on ye right and a white oake marked on ye left: and so along as ye way now goeth ouer ye old ford and so along as ye beten path now goeth by Joseph Towns house and so along ye beten path [\* uer] all trees marked on both sids of ye way to ye Common: and so along ye beaten path to ye bridg: we layd it out two rods wide: Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield and entered ye 14th of geunuary 1694 or 5.

At a lawfull Towne meting the 5th of march 1694.

Ensine Ephraim Dorman was Chosen Clark for this yere.

The Toune doth manyfest by uote that thay are willing to entertaine our neighbours of Boxford as formerly we haue dun and to that end ye Towne bath giuen libourty to set up more seates in ye meting hous for ye entertaining of them.

uoted

Isaac Pabody is chosen Cunstable for this year ensewing.

sargt Thomas Dorman and Corpl Tobiah Pirkins and Elisha Pirkins and Jacob Towne iunr and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for ye yeare Ensewing.

Corpl Tobiah Pirkins is Chosen Towne Treasurer for this yeare en-  
sewing.

The Towne did mannifest by uote that no bills of charg should be allowed by ye selectmen but what are aprebatred by ye Towne.

whare as thare is liberty giuen to set up seats in ye meeting house: ye Towne haue agreed that oure neighbours of Boxford shall haue equill preuelidg with our selues in seting up those seates and to inioy them as our selues: and also to bye seates as are set up: and to inioy them while thay contrebute to our minnistry: and in case thay remoue thay haue liberty to sell thare seates: only to such as shall contrebute as aboue said: and in case thay cannot sell as aboue said: when thay remoue ye Towne will alow them ye worth of ye said seates: and also to inioy ye like preuelidg with ourselves as formerly answerably to what thay pay: in these seates as weare set up by ye Towne.

Capt John How is Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls and Corpl John french is Chosen grau Jiuryman to sarue at ye next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

John Nickalls senr and John Prichet are Chosen tithingmen for this yeare ensewing.

Corpl John Gould and mr Timmothy Pirkins and Corpl John Curtious are Chosen serueiers for high-

ways for this yeare and Daniell Clarke also is Chosen sirueyer as aboue said. uoted

John Cumings and Nathaniel Auerill and Ephraim Wilds are Chosen fence newers for this yeare and also Isaac Burton. uoted

John Kenney and John Auerill are Chosen to see that ye horsis doth not goe on ye Common contrary to law. uoted

Mikell Dwonill senr and William Smith and Timmothy Pirkins iunr are Chosen pounders for this yeare. uoted

Sargt Samuel Houlet is Chosen to kepe the pound for this yeare. uoted

In answer to ye desire of boxford Towne we haue Chosen Capt John Gould and Capt John How and Sargt Samuell Houlet to treat with ye selectmen of Boxford or thare Com- mity to here what thay haue to say and make report to ye Towne. uoted

The Towne did manifest by uote that father Louewell shall in Joy ye house and orchard for ye yeare en- sewing on ye same termes as for- merly. uoted

ye Town haue agreed that Mr Timmothy Pirkins may make a dam acros ye swamp at ye south corner of his field by ye meeting house. uoted

The Towne by uote haue agreed that any ram that shall be found on ye Common any time betwene ye midle of august till ye last of october anually it shall be lawfull for any man to kill any Rams so found and giue halfe of it to ye pore and to haue ye rest for his paines. uoted

The 7th of march 1694 or 5 Eph- raim Dorman tooke ye oath of a Towne Clark and Corpil Tobiah

Pirkins took ye oath of a Towne Treasurer and John Pritchett took ye oath of a Tithingman: and Corpil John Gould and Corpil John Car- tious and Daniell Clarke took ye oath of sirueyers of high ways and Nathaniell Auerill and Ephraim Wilds took ye oath of fence newers before ye Honered Collonall Apple- ton.

At a third sessions of ye Generall Court of Election hild at Boston ye 15th of October 1650.

In answer to ye Request of Zacheus Gould and William Howard in ye behalfe of Topsfield ye Court doth grant that Topsfield shall from henceforth be a Towne: and haue power within themselues to order all Ciuil afayers as other Townes haue.

A true Copy as apers of Record, Examd P Is; Addington sacry.

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dor- man Towne Clark for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye select- men of Topsfield 22 mar. 1694-5.

sargt Thomas Dorman and Corpil Tobiah Pirkins and Ephraim Dor- man are Chosen to renew ye bounds with Boxford men betwene Tops- field and Boxford. uoted

At a lawfull Towne meeting by order of ye Court ye 3 of aprill 1695 Timmothy Pirkins iunr is Chosen Cunstable for this yere. uoted

Timmothy Pirkins iunr being Chos- en Cunstable for ye Towne of Tops- field for ye yere ensewing: apereed and tooke ye oath proper to that office aprill ye 5th 1695 before me Thos Wade Justis of ye Peace.

Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dor- man Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Sargt Thomas Dorman and Corpil Tobiah Pirkins and Ephraim Dor-

man being apointed to goe on pireambulation on ye line betwene Boxford and Topsfield and we apointed to meeete them on ye seaond day of aprill 1695: acordingly we met with thare Commity and demanded of them to renew ye bounds but thay neglected and sent thare excuse to our Towne.

John Nickalls senr being chosen tithingman and John Comings and Isaac Burten were chosen fence newers thay were sworne: Salem ye 9th 1695 before ye Honered Coll Hathron as apered under his hand.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 15th of may 1695.

it is by uote declared yt Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How shall enter a complaint against L Nathaniell Putman and & John Putman at ye next seuperier Court to be houlden at Ipswich for that ye said Putmans had giuen in a faliasious and desaightfull testimonies against Topsfield at ye last Court of Please hild in Salem to ye grat damage of Topsfield. uoted

Ensine Ephraim Dorman is Chosen Juerman to sarue at the next Superer Court to be holden at Ipswich.

uoted

Corpll Tobiah Pirkins was Chosen representitue to sarue at ye next Genarall Court of election at boston.

Charls Towne ye 21th January 1692.

then Reseued of mr Ephraim Wilds Cunstable of Topsfield ye sum of twenty five Pounds four shilings in bills of credit in parte of said Towns last asesment: I say reseued P John Phillips Treasurer.

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Charls Towne ye 24th may 1693.  
then Reseued of mr Ephraim Wilds Cunstable of Topsfield ye sum of thirty eight pounds fiftene shilings and ten pence in parte of said Townes last asesment I say reseued P John Phillips treasurer.

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston may ye 8th 1694 Reseued of mr Ephraim Wilds Constable of Topsfield thirtene pounds fiftene shillings and three pence in parte of said Towns asesment I say reseued for mr Jams Tayler Treasurer P Jer. Allen. £13 : 15 : 3.

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston fabruary 18th 1694.

Reseued for mr Ephraim Wilds Cunstable of Topsfield four pounds two shilings and eleven pence in full of said Towns asesment to ye thirty thousand pound rate I say reseued for mr James Tayler treasurer.

£4 : 2 : 11.

P Jare Allen

Copia vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 24 of July 1695.

Capt John How is Chosen Commissioner to Joyne with ye Selectmen to take an acount of ye Towns estat and to cary it to ye Shere Towne acording to ye Honered Treasurers worrent.

uoted

The Towne haue Chosen Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How and Sargt Samuell Howlet and Isaac Peabody and Ephraim Wilds to be a commity in ye behalfe of Topsfield to Joyne with ipswich or a commity in thare Towns behalfe to renew and settle ye bounds of mr Simonds farme betwene said farme and Ipswich

Common to preuent all firther Troble  
at law and what ye maior part of ye  
said Commity doth agree about as  
aboue said the Towne will stand by  
and it shall be a finall determinasian.  
uoted

whareas fiue men weare Chose ye  
6 of march 1693 or 4 to run out ye  
line betwene Salem and Topsfield ye  
Towne doth giue ye same Commity  
uiz Leiut Thomas Baker Capt John  
How Ens Jacob Towne and Corpil  
Tobiah Pirkins and Isaac Pabody  
power to send two men to uest that  
land as ye Towne doth conseue is  
our dew: and if ye said Commity or  
ye maior parte of them doe conseue  
it is well worth ye trying for: ye  
Towne doth giue ye said Commity  
full power to peteson to ye next  
seasions of ye Generall Court or  
Courtes ensewing to haue ye line run  
out seeing Salem doth wholy neglect:  
and ye Commity haue full power to  
proseed in a corse of law with Salem  
at Newbary Court or any other Court  
and from Court to Court till ye line  
be run out acording to agrement and  
what ye maior parte of our Commity  
doth agree aboute ye Towne will  
stand by and bare them out in all  
thare lawfull prosedings. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne  
of Topsfield ye 28th of august 1695  
Capt How is chosen and impowered  
by ye Towne and in ye Towns behalfe  
to sew any man or men as haue  
or shall trespass on our Towne com-  
mon by felling timber on ye common  
and carriing it of to ye Towns dam-  
age. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne  
of Topsfield ye 17th of Spept 1695.

Sargt Thomas Dorman and Eph-  
raim Dorman is Chosen to serue at

ye next seation of ye inferyor Court  
of pleas to be houlden at Newbary  
acording to warent. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne  
of Topsfeild ye 17th of september  
1695.

whareas a summons was directed  
to Topsfield Towne Clarke from sum  
of Salem farmes in which ye Towne  
of Topsfield was summensed to apere  
at next court at nubary by thare  
agents to answer ye aturnies of  
Salem farmes relating to thare  
Claims of Topsfield land in answer  
to which ye Towne of Topsfield haue  
Chosen Leiut Thomas Baker our  
aTourny to answer ye said summons  
and to defend ye Towns right: use-  
ing such legall meathods as he thinks  
best and ye Towne will bare him out  
in all his lawfull proseedings. uoted

The Commity impowred to sew  
Sargt Houey namly Capt How and  
Corpil Tobiah Pirkins and Isaac  
Pabody haue full power giuen them  
by ye Towne to agree with Sargt  
Houey about ye land in Controuersy  
betwene ye Towne and Sargent  
Houey. uoted

The Commity as was impowred to  
agree with Sargent Houey in ye  
Towns behalfe about ye land in  
controuersy haue agreed as foloweth  
That ye bounds on ye west side of  
ye brooke of sargt Houeys land  
next Topsfield common are as folow-  
eth first is a stake with a heape of  
stones at Joyneing to John Andreus  
his land from thence on a straight  
line northwardly to two read oakes  
Joyneing together at ye stump  
marked: and from thence to another  
read oake nere ye meadow marked  
leauing roome for a cart to goe on  
ye upland by ye medow betwene ye

last two bounds as ye fence now staneth: and from thence on a straight line to a grate white oake marked nere ye meadow: and from thence to an other letell white oake marked: and from thence to another letell whight oake marked: and from thence to another letell white oake marked nere ye ford: and so eastwardly to ye south sid of ye ford.

Dat ye 21th of Septembr 1695.

John How

Tobiah Perkins  
Isaac Peabody

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 11th of decembre 1695 it was agreed on that all bills of charg in ye Towne about any as was implied in ye Towne or in ye Towns behalfe as apered honist ye selectmen shall allow but if any thing aperes scrupulus to ye selectmen it shall be deferred to ye consederasion of ye Towne.

at A Lawfull Towne meetting 3d march 1695-6.

Ensign Ephraim Dorman is Chosen Town Clarke for ye yeare Insueing.

Corpll Tobiah Perkins and Sargent Samuel Howlet Ephraim Dorman William Towne and Isaac Easty iunr are Chosen selectmen for ye yeare Ensewing to order ye prudentiall afaires of ye Towne.

Sargt Thomas Dorman is Chosen Cuustable for ye yere ensewing.

Corpll Tobiah Perkins is Chosen Towne Treasurer for ye yeare ensewing.

Sargt Daniell Ridington and Corpll John Curtious and Corpll Samuell Standly are Chosen tithing men for ye yeare insewing.

Joseph Borman and John Kenney and John french iunr are Chosen serueyers for highways for ye yeare ensewing.

Jacob Towne iunr and John Comings Elisha Pirkins and John Towne are Chosen fence uewers for this yeare ensewing.

Thomas Towne and Joseph Easty is Chose to see that ye horsis doth not goe on ye Common contrary to law.

Elisha Pirkins and Nathaniell Auerill are Chosen to serue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

John Robison senr is Chosen Gran Juryman for ye yere eusewing.

it was put to ye Towne to giue goodman Louewell liberty to liue in ye Parsonage hous as before this yeare and a considarable company uoted for it and ye neagitiue was uoted and few or non apered by houlding up thare hands.

At ye request Capt How ye Towne granted a small track of land to set a barne on by ye rode nere his hous prouided ye said How lays downe as much of his owne land to ye comon.

Capt Gould and Isaac Pabody are apointed by ye Towne to lay out ye land aboue said.

These after named tooke thare oathes to ye faithfull discharge of thare saueral places as thay ware chosen two before ye Honered Coll Appleton Esquire on ye 5th of march 1695 or 6. Sargt Thomas Dorman Cunstable Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke Corpll Samuel Standly and Corpll John Curtious tithingmen

Joseph Borman and John Kenney  
senr and John french iunr serueyers  
of highways John Comings and Eli-  
sha Pirkins fence vewers by order of  
Collonall Appleton entered by me  
Ephraim Dorman Toune Clarke for  
Topsfield.

Boston aprill 30th 1695.

Reseived of mr Isaac Easty Cun-  
stable of Topsfield by ye hands of  
mr John Gould fifty eight pounds  
eleuen shilings and three pence in  
full of a worrent for fifty eight  
pounds eleauen shillings and three  
pence I say Reseued for Mr James  
Tailer Treasurer P Jar Allin.

£58-11-8. Copia vera atest Ephraim  
Dorman Towne Clarke of Topsfield.

Boston desember 26th 1694.

Reseived of mr Isaac Easty Cun-  
stable of Topsfield six pounds three  
shillings and nine pence in full of a  
worrent dated ye 13th September  
1694 amounting to twenty two  
pounds thre shillings and nine pence  
I say Reseued for Mr Jams Tailer  
Treasurer P Jar Allin.

£06-03-09. Copia vera atest Eph-  
raim Dorman Towne Clarke for  
Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free-  
houlders and others alowed by law  
Corpl Tobiah Pirkins was Chosen  
representitue toat end ye next Gen-  
arall Court to be houlden at Boston  
on ye 27th of this instant may.

notted

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 22  
of July 1696.

acording to ye act of ye Honered  
Genarall Court houlden at Boston 27  
may 1696 begun and hild: as requires  
aseser in obediace thare unto for  
ye leauing an asesment: our Towne  
of Topsfield haue Chosen Sargent

Samuell Houlet and Corpporall  
Tobiah Pirkins and William Towne  
assesers for yt worke as is in ye said  
act required. voted

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye  
12th of January 1696 or 7.

it was put to ye Towne whether  
thay would allow of a bill of Charge  
as Capt Gould gaue in to ye Select-  
men about druming and drums and  
cullers: and ye Towne voted on ye  
neagitive. voted

ye Towne did agree to allow The  
Towne Treasurer six pence pir pound  
for recouering and paying Towne  
debts. voted

At a Genarall Towne meting the  
2th of march 1694.

Ensine Dorman is chosen clark for  
the yere insuing.

Sargt Redington and Sargt Howlet  
and Corpl Pirkins and Corpl Stand-  
ly and Elisha Pirkins are chosen  
selectmen for ye yeare ensewing to  
order ye prudentiall afaires of ye  
Towne. voted

Joseph Towne iunr is Chosen Con-  
stable for ye yeare ensewing. voted

Daniell Clarke and Corpl Cur-  
tious are Chosen to serue on ye Jury  
of trialls at ye next Court to be  
houlden at Ipswich if sent for. voted

Sargt Isaac Easty is Chosen Grand  
Juryman for ye yeare ensewing.

voted

The Selectmen are Chosen assesers  
as ye law directa. voted

John Comings and Thomas How-  
let and Beniamen Bigsbee are chosen  
serueyers for highways for ye yere  
ensewing. voted

William Towne and sargt John  
Auerill are Chosen fence uewers for  
the yere ensewing. voted

and William Towne is Chosen ser-

ueyer with ye other aboue said.

uoted

Sargt Howlet is Chosen to kepe ye pound this yere.

uoted

Sargt Thomas Dorman and Phillip Knite and John french Clarke are Chosen tithing men for ye yere en-sowing.

uoted

upon ye petistion of Clarke french for ye exchang of four or fve akers of land he request yt land : part of ye land as was Sargt Houlets land and to lay downe land as is on ye hill called mr Pimbletons hill as hath bene improued: prouided quantity and quality be consedered and alowance answerable with straight lines in ye exchang of both ye Towne grants his request prouided Clarke french be at all charg.

uoted

and Sargt Howlet and Capt How are Chosen to lay out ye exchang of land as aboue said prouided that the said french lays down land for ye Toune next ye common.

uoted

Leiut Baker and Ens Jacob Towne and William Towne are apointed by ye Towne to renew ye bounds betwene ye first diuision of lots and ye cow common next ye reuer.

uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye propritors of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 10th of march 1696 or 7. it was uoted that ye preasent selectmen shall call all ye Cunstables to an account of all ye rats commited to them to gather belonging to ye minister or Towne and also giue ye Constables full power to proseed with all as are behind in ye rats comited to them to gather: to recouer by sute or destres as ye law prouids and to stand by ye said Constables in all thare lawfull proseeding.

uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye propritors and Commoners of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 10th march 1696 or 7. it was ordered that no wood shall be fallen on ye south side of ye Riuier on ye common for fire wood and no trees shall be fallen on ye north side of ye Riuier in Topsfield common for fire wood under a foot and halfe ouer exsepting birch maple and popler on both sids of ye Riuier: and no timber to be fallen on either sids of ye Riuier with out leauie from ye maior parte of ye selectmen: and who so euer shall fall wood or timber contrary to ye orders aboue said shall pay ye some of ten shilings per tree to be recouered by ye selccetmen: and euery one are to take notis if any fells trees contrary to the order aboue said: and thay are to informe ye selectmen: and ye informers shall haue halfe ye fine for thare paines ye other halfe of ye fines as aboue said to be desposed of as ye Towne shall giue order: and firther who euer haue liborty as aboue said for felling timber shall be inioyned to take ye whole top away in two months on ye pennallty for felling trees as aboue said to be recouered as aboue said: and these orders shall continew in force till ye propriorters shall passe firther orders on ye same acount.

uoted

We whose names are under writen being Chosen by ye Towne to renew ye bounds of ye Common on ye south side of ye reuer: haueing marked a yeallow oake by John Curtiosis and layd stones at it: and from thence to ye place whare ye wallnut tree was: we erected a heape of stones by a rock: and from thence to a read oake tree which we marked

and layd stones at it by Dwonills : and from thence to a whight oake tree by ye Riuer which we marked and layd stones at it.

dat 11 of march 1696 or 7.

Thomas Baker  
Jacob Towne senr  
William Towne

Copia Vera atest Ephraim Dorman  
Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting 2  
march 1697.

ye names of those as weare chosen and sumensed to Salem to be sworne to ye discharg of thare dutis respectiuely iu ye plases as thay ware Chosen to : Joseph Towne iunr Cunstable : Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke : John Comings Thomas Houlet beniamen Bigshee seirueyers for high ways : sargt Thomas Dorman Phillip Knight and John french senr titheingmen : and William Towne and sargt John Auerill fenceviewers.

atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark.

The persons within named parsonally apered before mee : Salem march ye 8th 1696 and took ye oath to ye faithfull discharg of thare respective duty acording to ye laws exsept John french.

John Hathron Justis of ye pece.

Copia Vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Corpl Pirkins sargt Howlet and sargt Ridington and Corpl standly and Elisha Pirkins being chosen asesers took ye oath to ye faithfull discharg of thare duty tharein acording to law by me Ephraim Dorman Clarke this 7th aprill 1697.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 9th of aprill 1697

whare as ye Commity uiz Leut Baker and Capt How and sargt Howlet and Isaac Pabody and Ephraim Wilds apointed to settle ye bounds betwene Ipswich land and mr Simonds farme so called so farr as it Joynes with Ipswich land : ye commity apprehending thay haue not full power : ye Towne doth giue them full power to agree with Ipswich for ye settleing as aboue said : and also to straighten ye line by Thomas Perlies : and also to exchang with Ipswich for conueniency Edward Nerlands house and som land as thay see cause and ye Towne will stand by it.

At a lawfull meeting of ye free houlders and others alowed by law of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 11th of may 1697 : Corpl Tobiah Pirkins was chosen Representatiue to atend at ye next Genarall Court of Election to be houlden at Boston as ye wortrent directs.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 24 of nouember 1697 Capt Gould and Leut Baker were Chosen to Joyne with ye selectmen to returne answer to Boxford conserning thare propo sesions as thay sent to us about runing a line.

Know all men by these preasents that whare as thare hath bene saueral deferences betwene ye Towne of Ipswich and Topsfield conserning thare bounds betwene etch Towne : for and in considerasian of a finall Issue of all said differansis wee ye subscribers being ye Commityes of etch respective Towne aboue mentioned being legally chosen and impowred to make an end of all deferences betwene said Townes : doe tharefore mutually agree and deter-

men as foloweth—Impr— viz—that ye easterly line betwene said Ipswich and Topsfield: shall begin at a stake nere ye spring that diuids or parts ye meadow of samuell Poter and Daniell fforster, said meadow lying nere ye dwelling house of deacon Isaac Comings ye said stake being about six rod from winthrops corner westerly: said line runing south easterly to ye westward end of a hill called Pains hill: leauing Edward Neallands Dwelling house about two Rods and a halfe in Ipswich.

Seacondly that ye notherly line betwene said Townes of Ipswich and Topsfield: upon runing thareof ye dwelling house of Abigell Pabody alias Parly: let said house fall either in Ipswich or in Topsfield on ye runing of said line, she ye said Abigell Pearly and her said dwelling house she is now in posession of shall be and remaine for euer included in Topsfield bounds in witness whareof each Community haue here unto Interchangably sett to our hands Topsfield this 31st of may 1697.

John Wainwright

John Whipple

Phillip fowler

John Deane

ffrances Wainwright

Community for Ipswich.

Thomas Baker

John How

Sammuell Howlet

Ephraim Wilds

Community for Topsfield.

Witnessis to said agreement.

William Gidney

Jacob fforster iuner

Daniell fforster

Copia Vera Compared atest Eph-

rain Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 7th of September 1697 ye Towne did agree to make a new Bridg ouer ye Riuier.

The Towne did agree that ye Selectmen should appoint ye place whare ye Bridg ouer ye Riuier should be made.

Capt John How and Sargt Samuell Houlet are chose to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next County Court to be houlden at Newbary after ye dat hereof.

Vpon considerasyon yt our grat Bridg ouer ye Riuier is so out of Repaire yt it is agreed upon to be made all new and in considerasyon yt ye Bridg and Causway is so exceeding Chargable and of grata Benifit to ye County: ye Towne haue agreed upon and haue chose Capt How and Sargt Samuell Houlet to peteson to ye Honered County Court at Newbary: next after ye dat hereof yt ye said Bridg may be a County Bridg.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 27 of nouember 1697 Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John How are Chosen and impowered to peteson to Salem Court next insowing for alowence towards ye grat Chrge as our Towne is at in making a bridg ouer ye Riuier.

This may sartifye whom it may concern: that where as Leiut Thomas Baker John How and Jacob Towne weare in pertenorship: by order from ye Towne of Topsfield to seeck after incrochments upon Topsfields rights: and haueing had contreuersey with Capt John Putman about som land claimed hy ye said

Putman in Topsfield bounds: and haueing recovered it by law: and ye said Towne of Topsfield haueing laid out part of ye said lands for our owne proper right: I Jacob Towne aboue said haue and hereby doe resigne all my right in ye aboue said land: to ye aboue said Thomas Baker and John How equilly ye considerasian is such that ye said Baker and How shall secure me from ye Town of Topsfield from what ye Towne claimes of me as a debt whilst I was in pertenorsip with ye said Baker and How: and I doe hereby upon ye considerasian aboue said freely fully and absolutely giue grant Resigne and set ouer for euer to ye said Baker and How all ye rights yt I haue or might haue had in ye aboue said land: for them equilly to haue bould and inioy for euer without any let hinderence or deniali of me my heires or asigns for euer; and yt it shall remaine to ye aboue said Baker and How as aboue said and thare heires or asigns for euer in witnes hereof I haue set to my hand this 27th of January 1697 and in ye ninth yere of his Maiasties Reigne.

Jacob Towne

Signed in ye preasents of us witnessis.

William Smith

her

Mary X Crocker  
marke

Copia Vera Compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a Ganarall Towne meting the 1 of march 1697 or 8.

Ephraim Dorman was Chosen Towne Clarke for this yere.

Jacob Towne iunr and Daniell

Clark and Capt How and Elisha Pirkins and Ephraim Wilds are Chosen selectmen to order ye prudentiall afairs of the Towne for this yeare insewing.

noted

Joseph Borman is Chosen Cunstable for this yeare ensewing. noted

Ebineser Auerill and Thomas Dorman iunr and Thomas Robison and William Smith are Chosen surveyers for highways for ye yere ensewing.

noted

Leiut Thomas Baker and sargt Thomas Dorman are Chosen to serue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next county Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

noted

Thomas Perkins is Chosen gran Jury man for ye yeare insewing.

noted

Sargt Samuell Howlet and Sargt daniell Redington and Isaac Burton are chosen tithing men for ye yeare insewing.

noted

in answer to ye desire of mr Capen for ye exchang of a litell land as he formerly propounded for in answer thare onto ye Towne hath granted his desire to haue ye said land provided he layes downe so much land to ye common on this side of ye reuer and Joyneing to ye common.

noted

Leiut Baker and Corpil Tobiah Perkins are chosen and impowred to call all ye Constables of Topsfield to an acount forth with as are behind with mr Capen in those rates as ware committed to ym to gather and in case thay neglect to giue an acount to them and to clere with mr Capen thay haue full power to sew ye Constables as are negligent in thare duty on that acount and recouer it of them that mr Capen may haue his due and ye

yere shall be paid.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 8th day ganuery 1694 or 5. ye Towne haue made choyce of Leiut Thomas Baker to manage Mikell Dwonill senr his cause against Salem farmes and to asosiate to himselfe whom he will to strengthen ye cause and to prosicut it from Court to Court till ye case he ended ye mening is this case now commisned against ye said Dwonill and ye Towne will bare him out in all his lawfull proseedings tharein.

John Curtious senr and Joseph Towne iunr we haue layde out away from Isaac Burtons to ye Bridg as foloweth: begining at ye said Burtons and so as ye way now goeth to John Robison his land: and then turning to ye right by a red oake marked on ye right and a white oake marked on ye left: and so along as ye way now goeth ouer ye old ford and so along as ye beten path now goeth by Joseph Towns house and so along ye beten path [\* uer] all trees marked on both sids of ye way to ye Common: and so along ye beaten path to ye bridg: we layd it out two rods wide: Copia Vare atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield and entered ye 14th of geunuary 1694 or 5.

At a lawfull Towne meting the 5th of march 1694.

Ensine Ephraim Dorman was Chosen Clark for this yere.

The Toune doth manyfest by uote that thay are willing to entertaine our neighbours of Boxford as formerly we haue dun and to that end ye Towne hath giuen libourty to set up more seates in ye meting hous for ye entertaining of them.

uoted

Isaac Pabody is chosen Cunstable for this year ensewing.

sargt Thomas Dorman and Corpil Tobiah Pirkins and Elisha Pirkins and Jacob Towne iunr and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen selectmen for ye yeare Ensewing.

Corpil Tobiah Pirkins is Chosen Towne Treasurer for this yeare ensewing.

The Towne did mannifest by uote that no bills of charg should be allowed by ye selectmen but what are aprebatred by ye Towne.

whare as thare is liborty giuen to set up seates in ye meting house: ye Towne haue agreed that oure neighbours of Boxford shall haue equill preuelidg with our selues in seting up those seates and to inioy them as our selues: and also to bye seates as are set up: and to inioy them while thay contrebute to our minnistry: and in case thay remoue thay haue liborty to sell thare seates: only to such as shall contrebute as aboue said: and in case thay cannot sell as aboue said: when thay remoue ye Towne will allow them ye worth of ye said seates: and also to inioy ye like preuelidg with ourselues as formerly answerably to what thay pay: in these seates as weare set up by ye Towne.

Capt John How is Chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls and Corpil John french is Chosen grau Jiuryman to sarue at ye next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

John Nickalls senr and John Prichet are Chosen tithingmen for this yeare ensewing.

Corpil John Gould and mr Timothe Pirkins and Corpil John Curtious are Chosen serueiers for high-

uoted

place and so we layd out Just aker  
for aker and rod for rod.

dat ye 11th of december 1697.

John How

Samuell Howlet

Copia Vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

We whose names are under writene  
being apointed by ye Towne to settle  
a line and to exchang land with Capt  
John How to set a barne upon accordingly  
we haue dun it and perfected  
what we did before which was not  
well settled as foloweth: begining at  
Daniell Clarks corner post three rods  
east ward wanting fife foot: to a  
stake and a heape of stones at it:  
whare ye said Hows fence now  
stands and from thence ranging  
northerdly six rods as his fence now  
stands: leaueing roome of aboute  
tbree foot betwene his leanto and ye  
fence to another stake and a heape  
of stones at it: it stands about  
twelue foot of ye said barne as it  
now stands: ranging upon a straight  
line westwardly to two whight oakes  
growing out of one stump: that tree  
of these two as stands next to ye  
fence is marked and is ye bound  
tree: and from that tree upon a  
straight line up to ye whight oacke  
formerly marked by us: and from  
that whight oacke tree last named is  
a corner tree ranging southwardly  
upon a straight line to a heape of  
stones and a stake standing by dan-  
iell Clarkes fence as witnes our  
hands this 2 day of aprill 1698.

John Gould senr

Isaac Paybody

Copia Vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of those as  
weare quallified according to law in  
Topsfield on ye 14th day of may  
1698.

Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen  
Representatiue to sarve his Maiesty  
at ye next Genarall Court of election  
as ye law directs.

voted

Boston may 31th 1697.

Reseeued of mr Joseph Towne  
Constable of Topsfield thirty nine  
pounds in part of a worrent for  
seauenly eight pounds Rec-ed for  
Mr Jams Tailer Treasurer P. Jer:  
Allene.

£39. Copia Vera atest Ephraim  
Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.  
Boston october 15th 1697.

Reseeued of mr Joseph Towne Con-  
stable of Topsfield by ye hand of  
mr Tobiah Perkins thirty nine  
pounds in full of a worrent for  
seauenly eight pounds Reseeued for  
Mr James Tailer Treasurer P Jer  
Allene.

£39. Copia Vera atest Ephraim  
Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.  
Boston decemr 8th 1697.

Reseeued of Mr Joseph Towne  
Constable of Topsfield by ye hand of  
Mr Daniell Clarke twenty nine pound  
in part of a worrent for thirty six  
pound Reseeued for Mr Jams Tayler  
Treasurer P Jer Allene.

£29. Copia Vera atest Ephraim  
Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.  
Boston January 7th 1697.

Reseeued of mr Joseph Towne Con-  
stable of Topsfield seauen pound by  
ye hand of mr John Gould and is in  
full of a worrent for thirty six pound  
Reseeued for mr Jams Tayler Treas-  
urer P Jar Allene.

£7. Copia Vera atest Ephraim  
Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston aprill 18th 1698.

Reseuued of Mr Joseph Towne Constable of Topsfield by ye hand of mr Daniell Clarke forty eight pounds in full of a worrent for forty eight pounds : Reseuued for Mr Jams Tayler Treasurer P Jer Allene.

£48. Copia Vera atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Reseuued of Joseph Towne Constable of Topsfield for ye yeare 1697 three pounds two shilings for ye County Rate which were in full thare proportion for ye County Rate—P me John Appleton County Treasurer.

March 7: 9 $\frac{7}{8}$  Copia vera atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

To Joseph Toune Constable we doe order you to pay out of ye cuntry rate to mr Tobiiah Pirkins two pounds two: in siluer as soone as you can conueniently.

dat 7 aprill 1697.

Samuell Howlet  
Daniell Redington

Samuell Standley  
Elisha Pirkins

Selectmen of Topsfield.

Reseuued in full ye contents of this order I say reseued by me Tobiiah Pirkins this 25th of october 1697.

these are true Copies of the order and reseight atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meting of ye free boulders this 16 of September 1698 and others alowed by law of Topsfield in obedience to a worrent: Quortermaster Tobiiah Pirkins and Corpll Samuell Standly are Chosen to sarue one ye Jury of trialls at ye next County Court to be houlden at Newbary.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 21 of october 1698 by uertue of an order of ye Genarall Court to this Towne directed to send reson why a commity may not com to settle a line betwene Salem farmes and Topsfield : the Towne haue agreed to send reson accordingly. uoted



**RECORD OF DEATHS IN TOPSFIELD.  
1658-1800.**

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**COMPILED FROM THE TOWN AND CHURCH RECORDS AND  
RETURNS MADE TO THE COUNTY COURT.**

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**BY GEO. FRS. DOW.**

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George Bunker dyed the 26th of May, 1658.

John Redington Sonn of John Redington dyed the 8 [?] of March 1659.

Issaack Redington son of Abraham Redington dyed May 4<sup>th</sup> 1659.

A Sonn of Isaack Comings borne & dyed 28 of Agust 1660.

Damaris daughter of Frances Pabody died the 19 decemb. 1660.

Daniel Clarke son of Daniel Clarke dyed the 17 of January 1660-1.

Symon Sonn of ffrances Bates dyed the 29 of Jan 1660-1.

Elizabeth daugh: of George Hadley dyed 2 of March 1660-1.

A daughter of Edmond Towne dyed 7 of Sept. 1661.

Abigail daughter of George Hadley dyed the 12 of Sept. 1661.

John Dorman Son of Tho. Dorman dyed the 16 of January 1661-2.

last two bounds as ye fence now staneth: and from thence on a straight line to a grate white oake marked nere ye meadow: and from thence to an other letell white oake marked: and from thence to another letell whight oake marked: and from thence to another letell white oake marked nere ye ford: and so eastwardly to ye south sid of ye ford.

Dat ye 21th of Septembr 1695.

John How  
Tobiah Perkins  
Isaac Peabody

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 11th of decembre 1695 it was agreed on that all bilis of charg in ye Towne about any as was implied in ye Towne or in ye Towns behalfe as apered honist ye selectmen shall allow but if any thing aperes scrupulus to ye selectmen it shall be deferred to ye consederasian of ye Towne.

at A Lawfull Towne meetting 3d march 1695-6.

Ensign Ephraim Dorman is Chosen Town Clarke for ye yeare Insueing.

Corpl Tobiah Perkins and Sargent Samuel Howlet Ephraim Dorman William Towne and Isaac Easty iunr are Chosen selectmen for ye yeare Ensewing to order ye prudentiall afaires of ye Towne.

Sargt Thomas Dorman is Chosen Cunstable for ye yere ensewing.

Corpl Tobiah Perkins is Chosen Towne Treasurer for ye yeare ensewing.

Sargt Daniell Ridington and Corpl John Curtions and Corpl Samuel Standly are Chosen tithing men for ye yeare insewing.

Joseph Borman and John Kenney and John french iunr are Chosen serueyers for highways for ye yeare ensewing.

Jacob Towne iunr and John Comings Elisha Pirkins and John Towne are Chosen fence newers for this yeare ensewing.

Thomas Towne and Joseph Easty is Chose to see that ye horsis doth not goe on ye Common contrary to law.

Elisha Pirkins and Nathaniell Auerill are Chosen to serue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next County Court to be houlden at Ipswich.

John Robison senr is Chosen Gran Juryman for ye yere ensewing.

it was put to ye Towne to giue goodman Louewell liberty to liue in ye Parsonage hous as before this yeare and a considarable company uoted for it and ye neagitue was noted and few or non apered by houlding up thare hands.

At ye request Capt How ye Towne granted a small track of land to set a barne on by ye rode nere his hous prouided ye said How lays downe as much of his owne land to ye common.

Capt Gould and Isaac Pabody are apointed by ye Towne to lay out ye land aboue said.

These after named tooke thare oathes to ye faithfull discharge of thare sauerall places as thay ware chosen two before ye Honered Coll Appleton Esquire on ye 5th of march 1695 or 6. Sargt Thomas Dorman Cunstable Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke Corpl Samuel Standly and Corpl John Curtions tithingmen

Samuell Son of ffrancis Pabody the 13 of September 1677.

Isaack Averill son of William Averill dyed the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 1680.

M<sup>r</sup> William Perkins dyed the 21<sup>th</sup> of May 1682.

Cathron Wakling wife of Luke dyed the 8 february 1682-3.

Luke Wakling dyed the 18 of february 1682-3.

The Death of Isaack Easty son of Joseph & Jane Easty ye 30 of April, 1683.

The death of Jn<sup>o</sup> Town son to Jn<sup>o</sup> & Mary Town ye 29 of Sept. 1683.

The death of Mary Curtis daughter To Zaccheus & Mary Curtis ye 21 of Octob<sup>r</sup> 1683.

The death of Zaccheus Curtis son to Zaccheus & Mary Curtis ye 7 of Novemb<sup>r</sup> 1683.

Thomas Perkins, Deacon, Died may 7<sup>th</sup> [16] 86.

Prisilla Lake ye wife of Henry Lake dyed 23 March 1688.

The death of Mary daughter of Lieut. John Gould 11 of May 1689.

Jacob Pabody sen<sup>r</sup> died ye 24<sup>th</sup> of nouember 1689.

The Death of John Redington ye 15 November 1690.

The Death of hannah wife of Tim<sup>th</sup> Perkins ye 14 of novembe 1690.

The death of John Perkins ye 5 of March 1690.

The death of Elizabeth Perkins ye 1 of April 1690.

Mary daughter of Daniell and Damaris Clark dyed on ye 22 of august 1694.

John son of John and Mary Hovey died ye 15 of June 1695.

M<sup>r</sup> William Pirkins sener departed this life on ye last day of october 1695.

Hannah daughter of Capt. John and Sarah How Departed this life 1<sup>th</sup> of nouember 1695.

John Prichet senior his daughter Elisabeth Prichet departed this life on ye 30<sup>th</sup> of nouember 1695.

John Prichet senior his daughter Sarah Prichet departed this life on ye 4<sup>th</sup> of december 1695.

Phillip Knite iun<sup>r</sup> departed this life ye 19<sup>th</sup> august 1696.

William son of William and Margit Towne dyed on ye 23 day of december 1697.

John Endicut son of Mr Zarobabell & Grace Endicut deseased ye 2 day of fabruary 1697 or 8.

Lieut ffrancis Pabody departed this life on ye 19<sup>th</sup> day of fabruary 1697 or 8.

Damarus daughter of Daniell and Damaris Clark dyed on ye 30<sup>th</sup> of June 1698.

William Pirkins iuner departed this life on ye eight day of July 1698.

John son of John and Presilah Curtious died on ye 27 of august 1698.

Nathan Pirkins dyed on ye 9<sup>th</sup> of September 1699.

Susanah daughter Ebinesar and Susannah Averill died ye 11<sup>th</sup> of nouember 1699.

John Perly Dyed June 23<sup>d</sup> 1700.

John French his wife drown<sup>d</sup> herself may 13, 1701.

Phebe French dyed on ye 14<sup>th</sup> of may 1701. [Town R'd].

John son of John and Elisabeth Pirkins Dyed on ye fifth of June 1703.

James Waters Dyed 11 Septem. 1704.

Ens. Jacob Towne Departed this life on ye 27<sup>th</sup> of Novem<sup>r</sup>. 1704.

Elisha Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup> Dyed on the 24<sup>th</sup> of Decem<sup>r</sup>. 1704.

Mary Peabody ye wife of Lieut. ffrancis Peabody Departed this Life on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Apprill 1705.

John Willd Sen<sup>r</sup> Departed this life on the 14 of May 1705.

Mary Dorman the Wife of Lieut<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman Dyed on 14<sup>th</sup> of November 1705.

Deborah Daughter of Thomas and Marsy Gould Dyed on y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> Day of January 1706.

Sarah Daughter of John and Presilah Curtious Dyed on y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> of Mar<sup>h</sup> 1706.

Asa Perly Dyed April 14<sup>th</sup> 1706.

Isaac Burton sen<sup>r</sup> Dyed on y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Day of May 1706.

Stebens Cummings Dyed by the hands of the Indians on the third Day of July 1706.

Mr Daniel Borman Departed this Life on 27 day of Aprill 1708.

Sarah Gould Wife of Capt. John Gould departed this life on the 20<sup>th</sup> Day of Janu<sup>y</sup> 1708—9.

Anne Daughter of Ivory and Anna Hovey Died on y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> of July 1709.

Abigail Daughter of Ivory and Anna Hovey died on y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> of august 1709.

Capt. John Gould departed this life on the 26<sup>th</sup> of Jany 1709—10.

Samuel son of ffrancis and Mary Pabody Died on y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> Day of January 1711.

Anne Daughter of Ivory and Anne Hovey Died on y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> of ffebruary 1711.

Dorcas Hovey y<sup>e</sup> Wife of Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Hovey departed this life on the fifth of Nove<sup>r</sup> 1711.

Elisabeth Town y<sup>e</sup> Wife of John Town Dyed on y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> Day of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1711.

Hannah Daughter of John and Prissilah Curtis Dyed on y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Day of octo. 1712.

Joseph Town Sen<sup>r</sup> Dyed on y<sup>e</sup> ——of——1713.

Thomas Howlett Dyed on the 10<sup>th</sup> Day of february 1713.

John Town Dyed on ye 28<sup>th</sup> of March 1713-4.

Matthew Stanley Son of Samuel Stanley Sen<sup>r</sup> Dyed on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 1714.

Kathrin Perkins Dyed on the 2<sup>d</sup> Day of July 1714.

Matthew son of Samuel Stanley Jun<sup>r</sup> and Mary his wife Dyed on ye 14<sup>th</sup> of Novem<sup>r</sup> 1714.

Prissilah Curtis y<sup>e</sup> wife of John Curtis Dyed on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 1715.

Meriam Stanley the wife of Jacob Stanley Died on the 10<sup>th</sup> Day of April 1716.

Daniel Averell y<sup>e</sup> Son of Nathaniel Averell Dyed on ye sixth Day of March 1716-7.

Juleenea Daughter of Ephrim and Mary Willd deceased on ye 22 of March 1716-17.

Sarah Howlett the wife of Samuel Howlett Dyed on the 26<sup>th</sup> Day of March 1717.

Ebenezer Averell Dyed on ye 22 Day of December 1717.

M<sup>r</sup> John Bradstreet Departed this Life on the 11 day of Jenery 1717-18.

Capt. Thomas Baker Died on ye 18<sup>th</sup> Day of March 1717-18.

Phebe daughter of William and Phebe Porter departed this Life on the 3 day of July 1718.

Prisillah daughter of Lt Thomas Baker and Mary his Wife died on the 17 day of May 1719.

Deacon Samuel Howlett Departed this Life March y<sup>e</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1720.

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman Departed this Life August 25, 1721.

Capt. Tobijah Perkins Departed this Life on ye 30<sup>th</sup> Day of April 1723.

Thomas son of Jacob and Rebeckah Peabody Departed this Life y<sup>e</sup> 25 day of Sept. 1723.

Jonathan Borman Departed this Life on y<sup>e</sup> 3 day of October 1723.

Mercy Daughter of Jacob & Mercy Dorman Departed this Life on y<sup>e</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> of July 1724.

Quartermaster Ephraim Willdes Departed this Life on y<sup>e</sup> second Day of Aprill 1725.

The Reverend Mr. Joseph Capen Departed this Life on the Last Day of June 1725.

Capt. Thomas Baker y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Died on the——Day of September 1725.

Amos Willdes the son of Ephraim and Mary Willdes Departed this Life on y<sup>e</sup> 25 Day of July 1726.

Rebecca daughter of Samuel and Hannah Curtis Died on y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Day of December 1726.

Jacob Son of Jacob & Mercy Dorman Died on y<sup>e</sup> Second Day of July 1727.

Damaris Wife of Daniel Clark Departed this Life on y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Day of Sept. 1727.

Capt<sup>t</sup> John How, who was in his 92<sup>d</sup> year died Decem<sup>br</sup> 16, 1728.

Ensign Amos Dorman died Jan<sup>ry</sup> 16, 1728-9.

Mary y<sup>e</sup> child of Nicholas & Kezia Creed died Jan<sup>ry</sup> 29, 1728-9.

Jerusha y<sup>e</sup> child of Nicholas & Kezia Creed died Feb. 4, 1728-9.

The widow Mary Averell died March 14, 1728-9.

Sarah Pricherd y<sup>e</sup> wife of John Pricherd died April 28, 1729.

John y<sup>e</sup> child of Ephraim and Mary Smith died May 26, 1729.

Joseph y<sup>e</sup> child of Joseph and Martha Robinson died May 30, 1729.

Jonathan y<sup>e</sup> child of Jonathan and Elisabeth Perkins died May 31, 1729.

Jemima y<sup>e</sup> child of Joseph Towne Jun<sup>r</sup> and Jemima died June 24, 1729.

Sarah Averell y<sup>e</sup> wife of Nathanael Averell died July 11, 1729.

Timothy ye child of Timothy and Kezia Perkins [died July 17, 1729.

Ruth Porter y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of William Porter Died July 20, 1729.

Dorcas y<sup>e</sup> child of Jacob and Elisabeth Reddington died Dec<sup>m</sup> 1, 1729.

Joseph son of Joseph and Abigail Cumings Died of the Smal Pox on y<sup>e</sup> Twenty fourth Day of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1729.

Abigail Towne y<sup>e</sup> wife of Joseph Towne Sen<sup>r</sup> died Jan<sup>ry</sup> 8, 1729–30.

The widow Abigail Cummings died of y<sup>e</sup> Small Pox Jan<sup>ry</sup> 10, 1729–30.

Damaris Daughter of Jacob & Mercy Dorman Departed this Life on the 29<sup>th</sup> Day of January 1730.

the widow Elisabeth Perkins died February 6, 1729–30.

Micall Dwinells wife died March 26, 1730.

Micall Coffeens child died March 27, 1730.

Joseph Bowerys child died April 12, 1730.

the widow Sarah How died May 6, 1730.

Jacob Robinson died Nov<sup>m</sup> 30, 1730.

Richard Towne Child died Jan<sup>ry</sup> 18, 1730–31.

John Prichard died Feb<sup>ry</sup> 7, 1730–31.

the widow Mary Prichard died March 5, 1730–31.

David Commings Child died April 5, 1731.

Jonathan son of David and Annah Commings Died on the first Day of Aprill 1731.

Joseph Dwinells Child died May 3, 1731.

Elijah son to Israel and Mercy Clark Departed this Life on ye ninth Day of May 1731.

- Mical Dwinells Child died August 4, 1731.  
Isaac How of Falmouth died of y<sup>e</sup> Small Pox November 12<sup>th</sup> 1731.  
Joseph Robinsons Child died January 17, 1731-32.  
Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Wood died February 1<sup>st</sup> 1731-32.  
Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Hoods Wife died March 1<sup>st</sup> 1732.  
Thomas Bakers Child died April 1<sup>st</sup> 1732.  
Joseph Towns Child died April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1732.  
John Capen died April 26<sup>th</sup>, 1732.  
Lydia How died May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1732.  
Deacon Daniel Reddington died September 27<sup>th</sup>, 1732.  
Jacob Estey died October 3, 1732.  
the Widow Elizabeth Reddington died October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1732.  
Jacob Towne y<sup>e</sup> son of Micall Dwinell Jun<sup>r</sup> wife died October 13, 1732.  
Josiah Kenneys wife died October 16, 1732.  
Zacheus Perkins died Dec<sup>m</sup> 1<sup>st</sup>, 1732.  
Stephen Fairfields child died December 30, 1732.  
John Curtice died February 23, 1732-3.  
Nicholas Crees child died April 21, 1733.  
Eliezer Lake died May 22, 1733, he was in his 98<sup>th</sup> year w<sup>n</sup> he died.  
Tobijah Perkins's Child died October 21, 1733.  
Mical Dwinell's Child died January 4, 1733-4.  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Goulds Child died March 19, 1733-4.  
Nathan Hoods Child died May 24, 1734.  
Nathan Hoods Child died May 26, 1734.  
Rebeckah Perkins the wife of Thomas Perkins died August 13, 1734.  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Goulds Daughter Elizabeth died August 28, 1734.  
Stephen Johnson died August 29, 1734.  
Sarah How y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Benj<sup>m</sup> How died September 2, 1734.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Goulds son Daniel died September 15, 1734.

Joseph Robinson died September 26, 1734.

Richard Townes Daughter Sarah died February 1,  
1734-5.

Kezia Perkins y<sup>e</sup> wife of Timothy Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup> died  
April 5, 1735.

Phineas Reddington's son Phineas died May 2, 1735.

Deacon John Howlett died September 7, 1735.

the widow Sarah Perkins died October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1735.

Joseph Houeys Child died November 5, 1735.

Jacob Dorman's Child died November 20, 1735.

Richerd Towne's wife died December 6, 1735.

Phebe Emery the wife of Zachariah Emery died Decem-  
ber 15, 1735.

Abigail Peabody y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Deacon Jacob Pea-  
body died May 12, 1736.

Martha Peabody y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Deacon Jacob Pea-  
body died June 17, 1736.

Elizabeth Peabody y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Deacon Jacob Pea-  
body died June 18, 1736.

Sarah Bradstreet the wife of Sam<sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet died  
June 19, 1736.

Nathanael Peabody the son of Deacon Jacob Peabody  
died June 25, 1736.

Jacob Dorman's son David died June 29, 1736.

Susannah Towne y<sup>e</sup> wife of Benja<sup>m</sup> Towne died July  
5, 1736.

Jacob Peabody Jun<sup>r</sup> his Child died July 26, 1736.

Abiel Averell y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of y<sup>e</sup> widow Ann Averell  
died Aug<sup>st</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1736.

Dudley y<sup>e</sup> youngest Child of Joseph Peabody died  
Aug<sup>st</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Joseph y<sup>e</sup> eldest Child of Joseph Peabody died Aug<sup>st</sup>  
y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Yeats Gould died August 11<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Jacob y<sup>e</sup> Child of Joseph Peabody died August 14<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Martha Perkins y<sup>e</sup> wife of John Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup> died August 16, 1736.

Nathanael Boardman Jun<sup>r</sup> died August 26, 1736.

Asa y<sup>e</sup> Child of Josiah Kenney died Aug<sup>st</sup> 31, 1736.

Sarah y<sup>e</sup> Child of Phinehas Reddington died September 9<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Abigail Boardman the Daughter of Nathanael Boardman died September 13<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Elizabeth y<sup>e</sup> Child of James Leslie died September the 21<sup>st</sup> 1736.

Leu<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkin's Son Tobijah died September 26, 1736.

Jonathan y<sup>e</sup> Child of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins died Sep<sup>t</sup> 28, 1736.

James y<sup>e</sup> Child of James Lesslie died September y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1736 and

Edmund y<sup>e</sup> Child of Leu<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins died also y<sup>e</sup> same Day, viz. on Sep<sup>t</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Sarah y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Daniel Reddington died October y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Daniel y<sup>e</sup> Child of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins died October y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1736.

William y<sup>e</sup> Child of W<sup>m</sup> Perkins died October y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Dorcas y<sup>e</sup> Child of Daniel Reddington died October 23, 1736.

Thomas and Margarett Children of Daniel Reddington died October y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Mary y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of John Wildes died November 6, 1736.

Deborah y<sup>e</sup> child of William Rogers died November y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Katharine Perkins died November the 16<sup>th</sup> 1736.

John Wildes son Ephraim died November 26, 1736.

Ephraim Wildes son to John & Phebe Wildes Departed this Life November ye 25, 1736.

Abigail More ye Daughter of Joseph Towne's wife died December 9, 1736.

Eunice ye youngest child of Joseph Towne and Daniel ye eldest son of Nathanael Porter Jun<sup>r</sup> died December the 19<sup>th</sup> 1736.

Thomas ye eldest son of Ephraim Wildes died December 20, 1736.

Mary ye wife of Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun<sup>r</sup> died Decem<sup>br</sup> 23, 1736.

Nathana<sup>ll</sup> ye son of Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun<sup>r</sup> died Decem<sup>br</sup> 24, 1736.

Edmond Towne and Rebeckah ye youngest Child of ye widow Johnson died December ye 25<sup>th</sup>, 1736.

Susannah Averell died December ye 26<sup>th</sup>, 1736.

Mary ye Child of Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun<sup>r</sup> died December ye 31<sup>st</sup>, 1736.

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having purposed (if my own Life be continued) not only to note down ye Time of every particular Person's Death, but also ye number of Deaths in ye year, I shall therefore here give ye number of Deaths yt have been from year to year, since my ordination to ye year 1736. The first yt died after my ordination was Cap<sup>t</sup> John How, December 16, 1728. Then in ye years

- 1729 died 14.
- 1730 died 09.
- 1731 died 08.
- 1732 died 14.
- 1733 died 04.
- 1734 died 10.
- 1735 died 09.
- 1736 died 43.

An Account of y<sup>e</sup> Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1737.

		Numb.
January	8.	1 <sup>st</sup>
January	21.	2 <sup>d</sup>
February	7.	3 <sup>d</sup>
February	15.	4 <sup>th</sup>
February	24.	5 <sup>th</sup>
February	28.	6 <sup>th</sup>
March	17.	7 <sup>th</sup>
March	19.	8 <sup>th</sup>
March	23.	9 <sup>th</sup>
April	8 <sup>th</sup> .	Thomas Howletts Daughter Lydia, 10 <sup>th</sup>
May	1 <sup>st</sup> .	Luke Averells Daughter Mary, 11 <sup>th</sup>
		and Margarett King at the house
		of Mr John Hovey, 12 <sup>th</sup>
May	3.	Luke Averells son Moses, 13 <sup>th</sup>
May	7.	Mary Hovey y <sup>e</sup> wife of John Hovey, 14 <sup>th</sup>
May	14.	Hannah Averell, 15 <sup>th</sup>
May	18.	Joseph Boardman, 16 <sup>th</sup>
June	5.	Pheebe How y <sup>e</sup> wife of Joseph How, 17 <sup>th</sup>
September	10.	Jacob Dorman's Daughter Sarah, 18 <sup>th</sup>
December	5.	y <sup>e</sup> widow Sarah Perkins, 19 <sup>th</sup>

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1738.

		Numb.
January	4 <sup>th</sup>	Sam <sup>ll</sup> a Child y <sup>e</sup> son of Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood Jun <sup>r</sup> , 1 <sup>st</sup>
January	9 <sup>th</sup>	Mary a Child y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Nathan Hood, 2 <sup>d</sup>
February	7 <sup>th</sup>	Sarah a Child y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Israel Clark, 3 <sup>d</sup>
March	25.	Hannah Towne the wife of Gideon Towne, 4 <sup>th</sup>

April	26.	Jacob Esteys Child,	5 <sup>th</sup>
May	30.	George Bixbys son Enos a child,	6 <sup>th</sup>
June	19.	Matthew Peabody's son an infant,	7 <sup>th</sup>
August	1.	Simon Bradstreet,	8 <sup>th</sup>
August	7.	Timothy Perkins,	9 <sup>th</sup>
August	12.	Lydia a child, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Aaron Hubbard,	10 <sup>th</sup>
October	19.	Damaras an infant y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Jacob Dorman,	11 <sup>th</sup>

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1739.

January	13.	Isaac Peabody in the 42nd year of his age,	1
January	23.	Liu <sup>t</sup> Joseph Dormans Child,	2
February	1.	Richerd a child, y <sup>e</sup> son of Richerd Town,	3
April	21.	Prudence a child y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Jacob Perkins,	4
April	29.	Liu <sup>t</sup> Zacheus Gould,	5
May	16.	Phinehas a child y <sup>e</sup> son of Phinehas Reddington.	6
June	2.	widow Abigail Dwinell,	7
June	26.	Sam <sup>ll</sup> an Infant y <sup>e</sup> son of Dan Clark,	8
July	7.	Moses an infant y <sup>e</sup> son of Luke Averell,	9
August	1.	Ruth Towne,	10
September	1.	Abner a child y <sup>e</sup> son of Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	11
September	3.	Ruth a child y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	12
October	2.	Joseph Towns wife,	13
October	23.	Joseph Rhodes supposed to be in his 97 <sup>th</sup> year,	14

November 18.	Mical Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup> his youngest Child, an infant,	15
November 23.	Jeremiah Towns child, an infant,	16
December 8.	Abigail Towne, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John Towne,	17
December 21.	John Curtice Jun <sup>r</sup> y <sup>e</sup> son of y <sup>e</sup> widow Joanna Curtice,	18
December 22.	Lydia Gould y <sup>e</sup> wife of Daniel Gould,	19
December 24.	Elizabeth Towne a child y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Israel Towne,	20
December 27.	Abigail Emerson y <sup>e</sup> wife of Jonathan Emerson,	21

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1740.

January 14.	Pheebe Towne y <sup>e</sup> wife of Jacob Towne,	1
	Daniel y <sup>e</sup> son of Amos Dorman, an infant,	2
February 25.	Tho <sup>s</sup> Bakers youngest child, an infant,	3
Feb <sup>r</sup> y 27.	y <sup>e</sup> widow Marlew (?) Clough,	4
March 10.	Susanna an infant y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup>	5
June 6.	Mehetabel Peabody y <sup>e</sup> wife of Matthew Peabody,	6
June 21.	the widow Elizabeth Gould,	7
October 17.	the widow Bathsheba Howlet,	8
Nov <sup>m</sup> 19.	the widow Mehitabel Averell,	9

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1741.

February 9.	Anna y <sup>e</sup> wife of David Cummings,	1
February 13.	Elizabeth an Infant y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of David Cummings,	2

February	18.	Elisha Perkins,	3
March	11.	Mercy Towne,	4
May	5.	Susannah Smith y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith,	5
August	10.	Dan an infant y <sup>e</sup> son of Dan Clarke,	6
August	11.	Sarah a child, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Jacob Peabody Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	7
September	17.	Anna a child ye Daughter of Samuel Masters (?)	8
September	23.	Elizabeth a child, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Samuel Masters (?)	9
October	4.	Jacob Towne,	10
October	31.	Dinah y <sup>e</sup> wife of Philip Towne,	11
November	5.	the widow Hannah Abbott,	12
December	23.	John Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup> his Daughter an infant,	13
December	26.	Oliver a child ye son of John Spalden,	14

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1742.

January	28.	John Dwinell,	1
February	6.	Mary Dwinell, her daughter, an Infant,	2
February	27.	Joseph How,	3
February	28.	John Perkins's son John,	4
May	12.	Philip Neeland,	5
August	24.	Joseph Herrick Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	6
September	3.	Sarah Dwinell,	7
September	16.	Elisabeth an infant y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Jeremiah Towne,	8

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1743.

January	19.	Edmund Towne,	1
February	4.	Elisabeth, an infant y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Eleazer Gould,	2

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May	29.	Lydia, y <sup>e</sup> wife of Eleazer Lake,	3
July	3.	Ephraim, an infant y <sup>e</sup> son of Ephraim Wildes,	4
July	6.	Elijah, an infant y <sup>e</sup> son of Ephraim Wildes,	5
July	17.	Hannah Lummucks,	6
August	23.	Dudley Bradstreet,	7
September	13.	Jacob Dwinell's youngest Child, an infant,	8
October	18.	Madam Capen Relict of y <sup>e</sup> Rev <sup>r</sup> m <sup>r</sup> Capen,	9
October	23.	Daniel Reddingtons wife,	10

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1744.

February	5.	John Dwinell,	1
April	23.	Jacob Dwinell Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	2
June	10.	Elisha a child, y <sup>e</sup> son of Jacob Perkins,	3
July	13.	Ruth an infant y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of y <sup>e</sup> widow Susanna Dwinell,	4
July	22.	Deborah y <sup>e</sup> wife of W <sup>m</sup> Rogers,	5
August	-4.	Deborah an infant y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of W <sup>m</sup> Rogers,	6
September	25.	Priscilla Smith y <sup>e</sup> wife of Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	7
November	7.	y <sup>c</sup> widow Hannah Clark,	8
November	20.	Lieu <sup>t</sup> Joseph Dormans youngest son, an infant,	9

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1745.

March	13.	W <sup>m</sup> y <sup>e</sup> son of Aaron Estey,	1
April	7.	y <sup>c</sup> widow Sarah Bradstreet,	2

April	14.	Thomas Bakers youngest child an infant,	3
April	26.	Pheebe, a child y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	4
June	3.	Pomp, a Negro servant man belonging to Doctor Dexter,	5
June	15.	Jonathan, an infant, y <sup>e</sup> son of Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Loe,	6
July	1.	John, an infant, ye son of John Spalden,	7
July	6.	Elizabeth, a child y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John Batcheller,	8
July	18.	Jacob Robinsons youngest child an infant,	9
August	23.	The widow Mary Curtis in y <sup>e</sup> 98 <sup>th</sup> year of her age,	10
August	24.	Mary an Infant y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John Symonds,	11
October	3.	Isaac Perkins two sons, infants, 12 & 13	
October	20.	Daniel Davis,	14

Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1746.

January	19.	widow Spalden,	1
February	9.	Dinah, a Negro servant woman belonging to Thos <sup>s</sup> Baker,	2
May	7.	Dorcas a child y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	3
May	31.	Lydia y <sup>e</sup> wife of Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Averell,	4
July	18.	Nathan <sup>ll</sup> a child y <sup>e</sup> son of Solomon Gould,	5
September	1.	Abigail y <sup>e</sup> wife of John Towne,	6
September	14.	Thomas Howlett,	7
December	25.	Elisha Towne Jun <sup>r</sup> youngest child, a Daughter, an infant,	8
		a Negro Servant Child,	9

Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1747.

Febry	14.	David Cummings's Daughter an infant,	1
April	15.	John y <sup>e</sup> son of John Le-Favour an infant,	2
April	21.	Abigail an infant the Daughter of Joseph Dorman,	3
May	19.	Joseph Dwinell who was drowned, attempting to swim over y <sup>e</sup> River,	4
June	8.	Eleazer, y <sup>e</sup> son of Luke Averell, a youth,	
June	29.	John Hoods Daughter, an infant,	6
August	5.	Sam <sup>ll</sup> a child, y <sup>e</sup> son of George Dwinell,	7
September 18.		Simon Bradstreet Jun <sup>r</sup>	8
September 24.		John an infant son of Elisha Cummings,	9
October	5.	Tho <sup>s</sup> Dwinell,	10
October	7.	widow Mary Griffin,	11
October	29.	Priscilla Griffinds,	12
November	3.	Ruth, Daughter of Ensign Daniel Gould,	13
November	8.	Lydia Daughter of Ensign Daniel Gould,	14
November 22.		Daniel a youth, son of Ensign Daniel Gould,	15
December	10.	Benjamin a child, son of y <sup>e</sup> widow Esther Bixby,	16
December	15.	John an infant, son of John Perkins Third,	17
December	16.	Benjamin a child, son of Thomas Gould Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	18

December 25.	Elizabeth a child, Daughter of John Perkins, Third,	19
	Three Negro Children also died in y <sup>e</sup> year,	{ 20 21 22

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1748.

January 1.	Joseph, an infant son of John & Eliz <sup>bth</sup> Emerson,	1
	Hannah, wife of David Balch,	2
January 2.	Mercy, a child Daughter of Thos Gould, Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	3
January 5.	David a Child, son of John Perkins, Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	4
January 9.	Jethro, a Child son of John Perkins, Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	5
January 16.	Ruth a young woman Daughter of Luke Averell,	6
January 17.	Timothy, a child son of John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	7
January 24.	Joseph Hodgskins a youth	8
January 24.	Mary, Daughter of Cap <sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins,	9
February 4.	Elijah, son of Luke Averell,	10
February 22.	Lieu <sup>t</sup> Dormans youngest Child an infant,	11
March 6.	Benjamin Bixby's youngest Child an infant,	12
May 25.	Lydia wife of Mical Coffeen,	13
May 31.	John, son of Richerd Gould, an infant,	14
June 24.	Mary wife of Israel Herrick,	15
July 12.	Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith,	16
August 9.	Lydia a child Daughter of Eleazer Lake Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	17

August	14.	Samuell a child son of George Dwinell,	18
September 25.	Joseph	a child y <sup>e</sup> son of Israel Herrick,	19
September 30.	Elizabeth	wife of Joseph Herrick,	20
October 3.	Esther Perkins	who died in an instant by falling into a well,	21
October 22.	Huldah	an infant Daughter of Eleazer Gould,	22
October 30.	Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood,		23
December 19.	Jesse Dorman,		24

Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1749.

January	18.	Daniel Clark,	1
Feb <sup>ry</sup>	1.	Huldah, an infant, Daughter of Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood,	2
Feb <sup>ry</sup>	16.	Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Capen,	3
February	24.	John Hoods son an infant,	4
March	2.	Jemima wife of John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup>	5
April	9.	George Dwinells Child, an infant,	6
April	24.	Elizabeth, wife of Solomon Gould,	7
June	25.	Jonathan Perkins killed by falling from a chimney,	8
June	29.	Anna, Daughter of Cap <sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould,	9
July	24.	Deacon Jacob Peabody,	10
August	11.	Abigail wife of Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Boardman,	11
Sep <sup>tm</sup>	2.	Susanna Averill,	12
Septem <sup>br</sup>	6.	Elizabeth a Child Daughter of Cornelius Balch,	13
Sept <sup>br</sup>	11.	Joseph Herrick,	14
Sept <sup>br</sup>	21.	Jacob Dwinells youngest Child, an infant,	15

September 23.	Mary a child, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of Joseph Hovey and Cornelius an infant son of Cornelius Balch,	16 17
Nov <sup>br</sup>	5. Richard Marshalls child & Benj <sup>m</sup> Woodbury's wife,	18 19
November 27.	Archelaus a child, son of David Towne,	20
December 6.	Ceesar a Negro Serv <sup>t</sup> man belonging to Aaron Estey,	21
Decem <sup>r</sup> 20.	Cornelius Balch,	22
December 24.	Archelaus a youth y <sup>c</sup> son of Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins	23

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Deaths in y<sup>c</sup> year 1750.

January	25.	widow Martha Balchs son Joseph	1
—	28.	Israel Clarks Daughter Sarah,	2
—	30 <sup>th</sup> .	W <sup>m</sup> Towne in his 92d year,	3
March	4.	Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hoods son, an infant,	4
March	22.	widow Deborah Dorman,	5
June	15.	Robert Perkins,	6
June	22.	John Perkins,	7
June	29.	Daniel Reddington,	8
July	14.	George Dwinell,	9
September	5.	Sam <sup>ll</sup> Tutoo free indian,	10
September	6.	Lydia, Second wife of Thos <sup>s</sup> Perkins,	11
September	27.	Capt John Wildes,	12
Nov <sup>m</sup>	22.	George, an infant son of y <sup>e</sup> widow Hannah Dwinell,	13

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Deaths in y<sup>e</sup> year 1751.

April	3.	Nathaniel Averell,	1
May	31.	John Hovey,	2

July	15.	David an infant son of Cap <sup>t</sup> Thomas Baker,	3
Sept <sup>m</sup>	7.	Aaron Hubbard,	4
Nov <sup>m</sup>	5.	widow Margaret Towne,	5
Nov <sup>m</sup>	17.	Nath <sup>n</sup> Hoods son, an infant,	6
December	2.	Elisha Perkins,	7
December	8.	Benj <sup>m</sup> Woodburys Daughter, an infant,	8
December	18.	Timothy Perkins,	9
December	31.	Joseph Peabodys wife,	10

## Deaths in ye year 1752.

January	5.	Nathan <sup>n</sup> Porters wife Eleanor,	1
January	13.	Joseph Cummings youngest son, an infant,	2
February	24.	Timothy Perkins,	3
March	12.	Ebenezer son to John & Elizabeth Emerson, an infant,	4
April	5.	Elisha an infant son of ye widow Lucy Perkins,	5
May	17.	widow Elizabeth Perkins,	6
June	29.	Thomas Gould in his Eighty Six year	7
July	5.	Joseph Edwards,	8
July	9.	Samson a Negro serv <sup>t</sup> Boy belonging to Dea <sup>c:n</sup> Bixby,	9
Nov <sup>m</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> .	Charity ye wife of Dr Dwinell,	10
December	7 <sup>th</sup> .	Jacob Robinson Jun <sup>r</sup> who was drowned,	11

## 1753.

March	6.	Sam <sup>n</sup> a youth son of Israel Clarke,	1
March	7.	Bethsheba a young person, Daughter of Israel Clark & the same day who dyed,	2

	Huldah an Infant Daughter of John Bradstreet,	3
March	13. widow Rebekah Smith,	4
—	17. Jacob Dwinells child an Infant,	5
March	27. Elizabeth, wife of Eliezer Gould,	6
April	4. Cap <sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould,	7
April	5. John Goulds youngest Child, an Infant,	8
April	11. Priscilla Gould, Relict of Cap <sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould,	9
April	15. John Hoods youngest child, an infant,	10
April	17. Lieut <sup>t</sup> Joseph Dorman,	11
April	20. Lydia Dorman,	12
April	27. John Pricherd,	13
May	4. Mary Lowden's Child, an infant,	14
May	8. Priscilla Peabody,	15
May	15. Ebenezer, son of Jacob Robinson,	16
May	22. Eliz <sup>beth</sup> Daughter of Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	17
July	2. widow Susanna Wilkins,	18
July	25. Jacob Gould son to Jacob Gould and Elisabeth his Wife Departed this Life.	19
August	7. Cornelius Waldo an Infant, son of John & Elizabeth Emerson, Jacob Robinson Jun <sup>r</sup> a young man drowned at y <sup>e</sup> Eastward,	20 21

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1754.

January 20 <sup>th</sup> .	widow Cree,	1
January 30 <sup>th</sup> .	Richard Gould son to Jacob and Elizabeth Gould Departed this life.	2
February 4 <sup>th</sup> .	John Emerson Jun <sup>r</sup> who died at Haverhill, in y <sup>e</sup> 23 <sup>d</sup> year of his	

	age, son of John & Elizabeth Emerson,	3
May	9 <sup>th</sup> . Asa Cree, a youth,	4
June	9 <sup>th</sup> . Joshua Bixby, an aged man,	5
Nov <sup>m</sup>	20. Uzziel Rea,	6

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## 1755.

January	31. an Infant ——— of Israel Davis,	1
June	7. Joseph Peabody,	2
June	8. Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Hood,	3
September	12. widow Ruth Dorman,	4
October	23. Elizabeth wife of John Hood,	5
October	28. widow Prudence Boardman, Mical Dwinell 3 <sup>d</sup> Jonathan Redding- ton, Jacob Dorman, Jun <sup>r</sup> & Jere- miah Gallop who died in y <sup>e</sup> war	6 10

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## 1756.

January	11. Eli, an Infant son of David Pricherd,	1
February	22. widow Amee Towne [widow of Jo- seph Towne, aged 87 years 10 months],	2
March	2 <sup>d</sup> . Thos <sup>s</sup> Edwards.	3
April	3 <sup>d</sup> . Mercy, wife of Israel Clarke,	4
April	12. Hepzibah wife of Joseph Andrew,	5
April	15 <sup>th</sup> . John Willard,	6
April	22 <sup>d</sup> . Joseph Andrew,	7
April	25 <sup>th</sup> . John Clarke,	8
July	8 <sup>th</sup> . Susanna a child the Daughter of Nathan Hood,	9
October	12 <sup>th</sup> . Enos Towne,	10
October	20 <sup>th</sup> . Dinah, wife of Thos <sup>s</sup> Perkins 3 <sup>d</sup> ,	11

November 13.	Dorothy a Child, Daughter of ye widow Dorothy Pricherd,	12
	Sam <sup>ll</sup> Mastin, Sam <sup>ll</sup> Tapley & Da- vid Pricherd who died in ye war,	15

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1757

January 4 <sup>th</sup> .	Deborah a child Daughter of Mat- thew Peabody,	1
January 5 <sup>th</sup> .	Margaret wife of Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins,	2
January 12 <sup>th</sup> .	Molly a child Daughter of Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Low	3
February 24 <sup>th</sup> .	Mary a child, Daughter of ye widow Mary Clark Jun <sup>r</sup>	4
May 28 <sup>th</sup> .	Joseph Towne,	5
June 15 <sup>th</sup> .	Ruth a child Daughter of Sam <sup>ll</sup> Phippen,	6
July 14 <sup>th</sup> .	Jacob Willdes Departed this Life at fort Edward.	7
July 31 <sup>st</sup> .	Hannah a child, Daughter of Thos <sup>s</sup> Symonds,	8
September 10 <sup>th</sup> .	Caleb an Infant son of Archelaus Rea, in ye war y <sup>t</sup> died also in ye year 1757. Joseph Edwards, Thos <sup>s</sup> Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup> & Sam <sup>ll</sup> Marstin w <sup>c</sup> makes ye N <sup>o</sup> amount to	9
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1758.

March 7 <sup>th</sup> .	Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Boardman an aged man,	1
March 8 <sup>th</sup> .	Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter an aged man,	2
April 4 <sup>th</sup> .	Hannah an Infant Daughter of Joseph Cumings Jun <sup>r</sup> of Ipswich but died in Topsfield,	3

April	22. Jedidiah an Infant son of Eliezer Gould,	4
May	17. Widow Mary Wildes an aged woman,	5
June	22. Lieut Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Porter,	6
August	23. Humphery Clark son to y <sup>e</sup> wid <sup>o</sup> Mary Clark Departed this Life in the Public Serues. .	7
September 4.	Enos an Infant son of Benj <sup>m</sup> Bixby,	8
October 11.	W <sup>m</sup> Jewetts child an Infant,	9
November 7.	Abigail Bixby an aged woman,	10
November 13.	Micall a child son of Bartholomew Dwinell,	11
November 18.	Jacob Perkins an aged man, Those y <sup>t</sup> died in y <sup>e</sup> war from Home y <sup>s</sup> year were Archelaus Dwinell, Jabez Towne, Jun <sup>r</sup> , Dudley Perkins, and Arthur Browne which makes y <sup>e</sup> N <sup>o</sup> amount to	12
		16

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1759.

January	21. Deacon Ivory Hovey,	1
April	1. Thos <sup>s</sup> an infant son of David Balch Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	2
April	14. Asa Bradstreet, a young man,	3
May	4 <sup>th</sup> . Aaron Hovey, about middle age,	4
May	5 <sup>th</sup> . Mehetabel an Infant, y <sup>e</sup> Daughter of John Peabody,	5
May	21. Sarah a child, Daughter of John & Elizabeth Emerson,	6
May	29. Jedidiah an infant son of James Burch,	7
May	31. Robert, an Infant son of Robert Perkins,	8

June	1. Abigail, an Infant Daughter of Isaac Estey,	9
June	5. Abigail an Infant Daughter of Jacob Dwinell,	10
June	11. Jemima a child Daughter of Thos Perkins,	11
June	16. Doreas an Infant Daughter of Thos Gould Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	12
June	26. Elizabeth, an Infant Daughter of Amos Perkins,	13
June	27. Lydia a child Daughter of y <sup>e</sup> widow Lydia Towne,	14
July	7. Rebeckah an Infant Daughter of Thos Perkins,	15
July	29. Rebeckah a child, Daughter of Enoch Perkins,	16
October	20. Elizabeth Dwinell, aged woman	17
November	19. Abigail Gallop, Two blacks,	18 19 20

Anno Domini, 1760.

January	14. Elijah Bradstreet,	1
February	12. widow Abigail Pool, in her 97 <sup>th</sup> year,	2
March	5. Archelaus Kenneys wife,	3
March	6. Archelaus Kenneys child, an infant,	4
May	5. John Batchellers wife,	5
August	18. a serv <sup>t</sup> child belonging to Hugh Lynde,	6
September	4. Joseph Cummins (?) a youth son of y <sup>e</sup> widow Mary Clark, Jun <sup>r</sup> also three infants, born at a Birth children of Thos Perkins, Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	7 8 9 10

September	28.	widow Hannah Towne,	11
October	27.	Experience Towne,	12
October	28.	John Wildes,	13
Nov <sup>br</sup>	6.	Cap <sup>t</sup> Benj <sup>m</sup> Townes wife Mary,	14
Nov <sup>br</sup>	16.	Zacheus Robinson, a youth,	15
Nov <sup>br</sup>	20.	Sarah wife of Joshua Towne Ju <sup>r</sup> ,	16
Nov <sup>br</sup>	27.	Moses Hovey, a youth who died w <sup>th</sup> y <sup>e</sup> Small Pox,	17
Decem <sup>br</sup>	7.	John Chapman who also died of y <sup>e</sup> Small Pox,	18
		Those who died from Home in y <sup>e</sup> Army.	
		Joseph Smith,	19
		James Burch,	20
		Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Boardman,	21
		Israel Dwinell,	22
		One Black,	23

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## Anno Domini, 1761.

May	24.	Susanna, a young woman, Daughter of Thos <sup>s</sup> Perkins,	1
June	18.	Sarah a child, Daughter of Joseph Gould,	2
June	22.	Mary, Daughter of Mical Holdgate	3
June	24.	Widow Mary Symonds an aged woman,	4
September	28.	Mary, a child Daughter of Stephen Symonds,	5
September	29.	Bettey a young Person Daughter of Elijah Porter,	6
Octo <sup>br</sup>	12.	Isaac Cumings an aged man,	7
Nov <sup>br</sup>	1.	Sarah Towne an aged woman,	8
Nov <sup>br</sup>	19.	Widow Hannah Herrick,	9

December 23 <sup>d.</sup>	Dorothy Clark Daughter to the Wife of Capt. Benj <sup>a</sup> Towne De- parted this life.	10
Decem <sup>br</sup> 24.	Mical Dwinell, Etatis 91,	11

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## Anno Domini, 1762.

January 11.	Joshua Towne an aged man,	1
May 16.	Elizabeth wife of Elisha Towne,	2
July 21.	Othniel Thomas child an infant,	3
December 1.	Sam <sup>ll</sup> Bradstreet,	4
December 15.	Ensign Solomon Gould,	5
December 30.	Anna an infant Daughter of Thos Gould Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	6
	One Black,	7

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## Anno Domini, 1763.

February 21.	widow Sarah Kittery an aged woman,	1
March 15.	Mary Cree a young woman,	2
March 25.	John Davis an aged man,	3
May 8.	widow Mary Gould an aged woman,	4
September 2.	Moses a young man, son of Simon Gould,	5
October 31.	Enoch a child, son of Enoch Perkins,	6

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## Anno Domini, 1764.

January 22.	Israel an Infant son of Cap <sup>t</sup> Thos Cummings,	1
February 7.	Mary wife of Philip Neeland Jun <sup>r</sup> middle aged woman,	2
February 16.	widow Dorothy Riggs an aged woman,	3

February	24.	Sam <sup>ll</sup> Perkins an elderly man,	4
March	22.	William a young Person son of John Balch,	5
April	9.	Ruth a child, Daughter of y <sup>e</sup> widow Rebekah Gould,	6
April	15.	Lucy wife of Mical Dwinell an aged woman,	7
May	9.	Abigail a child, Daughter of y <sup>e</sup> widow Abigail Potter,	8
July	3.	Elizabeth wife of Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne,	9
August	17.	Hannah wife of John Peabody, who died about middle age,	10
September	24.	Dan Clarke Jun <sup>r</sup> a young man who died suddenly,	11
November	12.	Elijah Clarke a young married man,	12
November	19.	Amos son of John Le-Favour,	13
November	20.	Hannah Daughter of Solomon Dodge,	14
November	25.	Dan Clarke an elderly man,	15

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## Anno Domini, 1765.

February	21.	Richerd Towne an aged man,	1
March	6.	Elijah son of Abraham Hobbs,	2
March	22.	Israel, son of Thos <sup>s</sup> Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	3
April	2.	Cornitt David Cumming an aged man,	4
May	4.	widow Abigail Hood an Elderly woman,	5
May	27.	Stephen Cummings a young man who died Comming home from sea,	6
June	17.	Nathan <sup>ll</sup> Towne an elderly man,	7
August	7.	widow Abigail Potter,	8
September	3.	Cap <sup>t</sup> Thomas Cummings,	9

September 30.	widow Pheebe Wildes an aged woman,	10
October 30.	Sarah a child, Daughter of John Le-Favour,	11
December 26.	an infant child, son of Asa Smith,	12
December 31.	Mary wife of Asa Smith, One Black,	13
		14

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## Anno Domini, 1766.

March 6.	an infant, son of Enoch Perkins	1
April 1.	Solomon an Infant, son of Dan'l Averell,	2
August 29.	Joseph Hovey Jun'r a student of y <sup>e</sup> College,	3
September 13.	Widow Susanna Cummings in y <sup>e</sup> 96 <sup>th</sup> year of her age,	4
September 30.	Sarah Hovey a young woman Daughter of y <sup>e</sup> widow Sarah Hovey,	5
October 6.	An Infant, child of Davis Howlett,	6
November 17.	Mercy wife of Jacob Dorman an aged woman,	7
December 11.	Deacon Dan'l Gould an aged man,	8

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## Anno Domini 1767.

January 4.	Elizabeth a child, Daughter of John May,	1
February 8.	Mary, Wife of Deacon Bixby, an aged woman,	2
April 3.	Ephraim Wildes an aged Man,	3
May 6.	Dorothy, wife of Nathan'l Averill Jun'r,	4

June	13.	Sarah, wife of Jeremiah Towne Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	5
September	15.	Ruth an Infant, Daughter of Dan <sup>ll</sup> Hood,	6
September	16.	Joseph a youth, son of Ensign Joseph Gould,	7
November	18.	Hannah Willard, an aged woman,	8

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## Anno Domini, 1768.

April	16.	Dudley Smiths child, an Infant,	1
April	19.	Mary, wife of Nehemiah Herrick,	2
May	27.	Lydia, an Infant, Daughter of Abraham Hobbs Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	3
July	12.	Eunice, Daughter of Cap <sup>t</sup> Boardman,	4
November	24.	Josiah, an infant, son of Tho <sup>s</sup> Moor, One Black,	5
			6

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## Anno Domini, 1769.

March	12.	Lydia Pricherd, a young woman,	1
April	15.	Richerd Cree, a middle aged man, who was drownded,	2
April	24.	Abigail, a young Woman y <sup>e</sup> Daugh- ter of John & Eliz <sup>bth</sup> Emerson,	3
May	22.	Sarah, wife of Palatiah Cummings, a middle aged woman,	4
September	25.	M <sup>r</sup> David Balch, an aged man,	5
December	11.	M <sup>r</sup> Jacob Dorman, an aged man,	6

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## Anno Domini, 1770.

January	23.	Abigail an infant, Daughter of Pela- tiah Cummings, died in Wenham,	1
January	28.	Jacob Foster, a young man,	2

March	27.	Widow Jemima Bointon an aged Woman, died very suddenly,	3
April	27.	Widow Lydia Stanley an aged Woman died very suddenly,	4
June	14.	Richerd, son of David Balch,	5
September	19.	Mical Dwinell an aged man who died suddenly,	6

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Anno Domini, 1771.

January	28.	John Boardman Jun <sup>r</sup> a young man	1
February	2.	Lieu <sup>t</sup> Thomas Gould & John Batceler, both aged men,	2 3
March	7.	Philip Neeland, an aged man,	4
March	9.	Joseph Emerson, a youth,	5
April	19.	Abraham Hobbs Jun <sup>r</sup> his youngest child,	6
April	25.	Hannah, an Infant Daughter of Joseph Perkins,	7
April	29.	Eliezer Lake, an aged man,	8
May	15.	an Infant, Daughter of Benj <sup>m</sup> Fisk	9
May	18.	Sam <sup>ll</sup> Towne, an aged man, who was drownded, Also y <sup>e</sup> same Day died Priscilla a Daughter of Isaac Hobbs,	10 11
August	22.	y <sup>e</sup> widow Martha Perkins, an aged Woman,	12
October	5.	Widow Abigail Cummings an aged Woman,	13
Novemb <sup>r</sup>	10.	an Infant, son of Stephen Adams,	14
Decemb <sup>r</sup>	24.	an Infant, son of John Dwinell,	15

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Anno Domini, 1772.

January	31.	Widow Elizabeth Reddington an aged Woman,
		1

February	11.	Cap <sup>t</sup> Benjamin Towne an aged man,	2
February	13.	Mercy Gould, a young Woman, Daughter of y <sup>e</sup> Widow Mary Gould	3
March	19.	Widow Mary Neeland, an aged Woman,	4
March	23.	Nathan Hood Jun <sup>r</sup> , near middle age,	5
May	1.	Benj <sup>m</sup> Fisk, a young married man,	6
May	6.	A Negro child,	7
May	13.	Widow Mary Hubbard, an aged Woman who died very suddenly	8
June	23.	An Infant, son of David Towne Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	9
July	13.	An Infant, son of John Hood,	10
November	26.	widow Elizabeth Perkins, an aged woman,	11
December	25.	Ruth Dodge an elderly Woman,	12

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Anno Domini, 1773.

March	3.	An Infant, son of Elizabeth Peabody,	1
March	22.	Sarah, a young married Woman, wife of W <sup>m</sup> Fessenden, A.M. & grammar School-Master of y <sup>e</sup> Town,	2
August	30.	Anna Towne, a young woman,	3
Septemb <sup>r</sup>	26.	Oliver Towne, a young married man,	4
November	3.	Zilpah, a Negro Woman,	5
December	9.	the Widow Abigail Dorman an aged Woman,	6
December	26.	Katharin Perkins, an elderly woman who died suddenly,	7
December	28.	Cap <sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins an aged Man who died very suddenly,	8

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Anno Domini, 1774.

January	19.	Aaron, an infant, son of Stephen Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup> ,	1
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<b>January</b>	<b>29.</b>	Mehetabel, an infant, Daughter of Jnº Perkins 3d &,	<b>2</b>
		Enoch Perkins a middle aged man, who died very suddenly,	<b>3</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>26.</b>	Elizabeth, an aged Woman, Relict of Capº Tobijah Perkins,	<b>4</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>23.</b>	Henry, a child, son of Henry Brad- street,	<b>5</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>14.</b>	Widow Mary Dwinell, who died suddenly a very aged Woman, up- wards of 90 years,	<b>6</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>15.</b>	Rebekah Perkins, a middle aged Woman,	<b>7</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>5.</b>	Lieuº John Lampson who Died very Suddenly,	<b>8</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup>.</b>	The Rev <sup>nd</sup> Mr. John Emerson De- parted this Life Aged 67 years, five months, and four days. He was Ordained November 27 <sup>th</sup> 1728.	<b>9</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>30.</b>	Becca a Child of John Gould Juner,	<b>10</b>
<b>Sept<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>28.</b>	Thomas Gould his Macy,	<b>11</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>15.</b>	Hephzibah Galop wife of Wi <sup>ll</sup> Galop,	<b>12</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>20.</b>	Elezibath Galop a young woman,	<b>13</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>23.</b>	Susannah Bradstrett wif of Simon Bradstrett,	<b>14</b>
<b>Decemb<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>31.</b>	John Balch,	<b>15</b>

**Anno Domini, 1775.**

<b>January</b>	<b>9.</b>	An Infant Child of Stephan Adams,	<b>1</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>14.</b>	An Infant Child of Sam <sup>l</sup> Smith, the widow Mary Rea an ageed woman,	<b>2</b>
_____		the widow Mary Lake an ageed woman,	<b>3</b>
_____		Benj <sup>n</sup> Kimball a student of Harverd Colledge son of Jacob Kimball Died the 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug <sup>t</sup> 1775,	<b>4</b>

September 7. A Child of Zebelon Perkins,	6
Samuel Kimball son of Jacob Kimball Died Sep <sup>t</sup>	
10 <sup>th</sup> 1775,	7
Enos Towne son of Stephen Towne Jn <sup>r</sup> Departed	
this Life 9 <sup>th</sup> Sep <sup>t</sup> 1775,	8
Esther Hood Daughter of John Hood Departed	
this Life Sep <sup>t</sup> 1775,	9
Daniel Bixby Departed this Life 22 <sup>d</sup> Sep <sup>t</sup> 1775,	10
Elisabeth Gould wife of John Gould Jn <sup>r</sup> Departed	
this Life the 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct <sup>r</sup> 1775,	11
A Child of Joseph Perkins,	12
Elijah Porter Esq <sup>r</sup> Departed this Life 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec <sup>r</sup>	
1775,	13
Daniel Hood son of Daniel Hood Departed this	
Life Oct <sup>r</sup> 1775,	14
<hr/>	
The Wid. Edwards an aged woman Departed this	
Life Jan <sup>y</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> 1776,	1
Mehetebel Broadstreet and Lucy Broadstreet Dafters	
of John Broadstreet Booth Departed this Life Jan-	2
uary 29,	3
Nehemiah Towne a Child of Nehemiah Towne De-	
parted this Life february 10, 1776,	4
hildah Hood Daughter of John Hood Departed	
this Life february y <sup>e</sup> 18, 1776,	5
William Balch son of David Balch Departed this	
Life february y <sup>e</sup> 26, 1776,	6
Daniel Clark son of Daniel Clark Departed this Life	
february 29, 1776,	7
William Perkins an aged man who Died Suddenly	
february 29, 1776,	8
the Widdow Kittle an Aged woman Died March	
y <sup>e</sup> 7 [she was the widow of Samuel Kettell of	
Charlestown]	9

the widdow Anna Hovey an Aged Woman who died Sudenly March y <sup>e</sup> 10,	10
Elijah Clark a Child of Daniel Clark who died March y <sup>e</sup> 14,	11
Lucy Hood Daughter of Daniel Hood died March 31,	12
Luke Auril Died April 16,	13
Tamma Wilds Dafter of Amos Wilds died April y <sup>e</sup> 17,	14
Priscilla Perkins Daughter of Stephen Perkins Juner Died April y <sup>e</sup> 19, 1776,	15
Ebenezer Baker a Child of John Baker Junr Died April 24,	16
A Child of M <sup>r</sup> Brindlecom Belonging to Marblehead died May 6,	17
Judah Marah an aged woman of Marblehead died May y <sup>e</sup> 24,	18
Sarah Bixby wife of Deacon George Bixby who Died Jne the 30 1776,	19
Prudence Ireland an aged woman who Died July y <sup>e</sup> 19,	20
Ceasar a Negro seruent of Thomas Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup> who Died July 24,	21
an Infant Child of Jacob Kimball August y <sup>e</sup> 29,	22
Martha Perkins wife of Thomas Perkins Junr who Died September 4 <sup>th</sup> ,	23
Elizabeth Bixby who Died September 18,	24
Sarah a Child of Robert Balch who Died October y <sup>e</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> ,	25
Nathaniel Dorman a middle aged man who died October the 13 <sup>th</sup> ,	26
Pellityah Commings a younge man who died october 27,	27
Richard a Child of Cornelious Balch who Died Nouember 1 <sup>st</sup> ,	28

an infant Child Abraham hobbs juner Nouember 18, 29  
 Two infant Children being Twins of John Peabody  
 Departed this Life December 27<sup>th</sup> 1776.

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An Infant male Child of Ephraim Towne Jun <sup>r</sup>	
Departed this Life January the 8 <sup>th</sup> 1777,	1
An Infant Child, son of Mary Bixby Departed this	
Life April 13 <sup>th</sup> 1777,	2
Lydia Daughter of Nath <sup>ll</sup> Fisk, May 16,	3
William Perkins a young man Departed this Life	
on y <sup>e</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> day of June 1777.	4
Samuel Bradstreet Departed this Life July 6 <sup>th</sup> 1777,	5
Ruth Bradstreet Relict Widdow of Samuel Brad-	
street, Departed this Life on the 25 <sup>th</sup> day of July,	
1777,	6
Mary Perkins Daughter of Stephen Perkins De-	
parted this Life the 13 <sup>th</sup> of August 1777 in the 27 <sup>th</sup>	
year of her age.	7
September 7 <sup>th</sup> . Jacob Batcheller son of John and	
Lydia Batcheller Departed this	
Life and the,	8
14 <sup>th</sup> of September Ann Batcheller Daughter of John	
& Lydia Batcheller departed this Life,	9
Capt Thomas Baker Departed this Life on the 16 <sup>th</sup>	
day of September 1777.	10
September 21 <sup>st</sup> . Zebulun Perkins son of Zebulun and	
Mary Perkins Departed this Life	
and,	11
September 23 <sup>d</sup> . Unice the daughter of Zebulun &	
Mary Perkins Departed this Life,	12
August 11 <sup>th</sup> . Esther the daughter of John and	
Ester Dwinell Departed this Life.	
She died with the Small Pox.	
Ought to have been entred before,	13

September 23 <sup>d</sup> .	Huldah Bradstreet Daughter of John & Elisabeth Bradstreet Departed this Life.	14
October the 1 <sup>st</sup> .	Jacob Perkins Departed this Life,	15
October 7 <sup>th</sup> .	Esther the wife of Phillip Towne Departed this Life.	16
	Mary Perkins the Daughter of Stephen Perkins and Unice his wife Departed this Life 13 <sup>th</sup> of August which should have been entered before.	17
	Aholiab Gould son to Eliezer Gould Departed this Life on the 8 day of October 1777 being killed by a Cannon ball at the taking Bergoyns armey in the Nineteenth year of his age,	18
October 16 <sup>th</sup> .	John Dwinell son of John and Esther Dwinell Departed this life and in the 18 <sup>th</sup> day their daughter Mehatabell Departed this life	19
		20
October 19 <sup>th</sup> .	Marcy the wife of David Perkins Departed this life	21
October 18 <sup>th</sup> .	Lucy the Daughter of John and Lucy Peabody Departed this life	22
October 20 <sup>th</sup> .	Departed this Life Mr Matthew Peabody, and Sarah his wife and Ebenezer Peabody son of John and Lucy Peabody all three in one day and under one roof, and was all three bury <sup>d</sup> at one time, Mr Peabody and his wife was both laid in one grave.	25
November 25 <sup>th</sup> , 1777.	Departed this Life Joseph son of Cap <sup>t</sup> Nehemiah Herrick.	26

December 15<sup>th</sup>. Nehemiah son of Cap<sup>t</sup> Nehemiah Herrick. 27

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January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1778. Departed this life An Infant Child Daughter of Phillip Mackinze. 1

February 1<sup>st</sup>. Sarah Daughter of Paletiah Cummings. 2

April 15<sup>th</sup>. the widow Hannah Towne. 3

July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sarah Daughter of David Towne Jun<sup>r</sup>. 4

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1778. Departed this Life Deacon John Gould, he represented the town at the General Court at the same time he died with the small pox at Watertown 5

August 20<sup>th</sup>. David Towne Departed this life. 6

September 21<sup>st</sup>. Joshua Cree departed this Life. 7

October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Esther Lynd departed this Life the same day Oct<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Benjamin son of Samuel Smith Jun<sup>r</sup> Departed this life. 8

October ye 12<sup>th</sup>. Emerson a Child The Son of Thomas Hodgdon Departed this Life. 10

October 17<sup>th</sup>. Sarah a Child of Daniel Porter departed this Life. 11

October 18<sup>th</sup>. Dinna a Negro woman servant of Mrs. Porter departed this life. 12

October 19<sup>th</sup>. William son of Oliver Perkins Departed this Life. 13

October 23<sup>d</sup> 1778. James a Son of Daniel Porter Departed this Life. 14

November 23, 1778. Cap<sup>t</sup> John Dodge of Brookfield being in town on a visit at the House of Mr Solomon Dodges, he went to bed in the evening in a comfortable State of health for a man of his age, but was found dead in his bed in the morning, he was about 85 years of age. 15

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February 5<sup>th</sup> 1779. the Widow Elisabath Lampson Departed this Life.

May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1779. Amos Wildes departed this life, he died with the small pox.

June 7<sup>th</sup> 1779. Lois Wildes daughter of Amos and Hannah Wildes departed this Life. She also died with the Small pox.

September 11<sup>th</sup>. An Infent Child of Zacheus Gould, Jun<sup>r</sup>.

Decem<sup>r</sup>. 20 1779. Hannah Wildes relict widow of Amos Wildes, departed this life in a sudden & surprising manner, by means of her own using.

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Feby 7<sup>th</sup> 1780. John Perkins an aged man.

March 12. Widow Rebekah Peabody a very aged woman.

April 7. Cap<sup>t</sup> John Boardman in something of a sudden & unexpected manner.

April 9<sup>th</sup>. Sarah Towne a very aged woman.

May 18. An infant child of Abraham Hobbs, Jun<sup>r</sup>.

- June            28. Dinah, a negro woman servant of Philip Kneeland.
- June            29. The widow Sarah Baker, a woman in years.
- July            10. An infant child of Moses Conant.
- Aug<sup>t</sup>          19. Priscilla wife of Capt Joseph Cummings. The same day a negro man belonging to John Balch.
- Nov<sup>r</sup>          10. A young child of Nathan Fisk.
- Nov<sup>r</sup>          20. An infant child of John Dwinell.
- Decem<sup>r</sup>        19. Mary Foster, an aged person, a member of Chh. But resident in ye parish of Linebrook.
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- Jan<sup>y</sup>      7, 1781. Deacon Stephen Foster about 71 years of age.
- Jan.          15. The widow Eliz<sup>h</sup> Perkins an aged woman.
- Feb.          11. Theophilus Fisk an aged man.
- March        22. The widow Elizabeth Bradstreet, a very aged person, & ye only surviving daughter of ye Rev<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Capen, the third ordained pastor of this Chh.
- March        29. Priscilla daughter of Jacob Averell.
- July          1<sup>st</sup>. Philip Towne an aged person.
- July          20. A child of Nathanael Gould.
- July          22. Sarah wife of John Cummings.
- Aug<sup>t</sup>          5. David son of John Gould.
- Aug<sup>t</sup>          17. Capt Nathanael Averell an aged person.
- Aug<sup>t</sup>          20. Hannah, wife of Stephen Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup>.

- Aug<sup>t</sup> 26. A child of John Gould, Jun<sup>r</sup>.  
 Aug<sup>t</sup> 29. Elizabeth wife of Joseph Towne. .  
 Sep<sup>r</sup> 24. An infant child of Bishop Norton of Newburyport.  
 Nov<sup>r</sup> 15. Thomas Wiles of a lethargy.  
 Nov<sup>r</sup> 18. The widow Mary Perkins a very aged pr'son.  
 Decem. 18. Susanna daughter of Samuel Smith Jun<sup>r</sup> abt 18 years of age in a very sudden & unexpected manner.
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- May 31<sup>st</sup> 1782. A child of Nathanael Smith.  
 May 31. A child of Israel Clark.  
 June 10. Eliza<sup>h</sup> wife of Nathan Hood, in a very sudden manner.  
 Oct<sup>r</sup> 28. Theziah, daughter of Amos Perkins, a young person.  
 Nov<sup>r</sup> 22. William Perkins, a single man, about 60 years of age.  
 Decem<sup>r</sup> 11. The widow Mary Towne in a sudden manner.  
 Decem<sup>r</sup> 21. A negro girl of Capt Nehemiah Herrick.
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- Jan<sup>y</sup> 31, 1783. A child of Capt Nehemiah Herrick.  
 Feb. 12. An infant child of Enos Gallop.  
 April 21. Aaron Estey in y<sup>e</sup> 85 year of his age.  
 April 26. The widow Hannah Bachelor, in y<sup>e</sup> 80<sup>th</sup> year of her age.  
 May 3. Deacon George Bixby in the 92 year of his age.  
 July 11. Nathan Wildes about 70 years of age, of a complication of disorders.

- Nov<sup>r</sup>            25. Doctor Richard Dexter, of a putrid fever. Aged 71.
- Decem<sup>r</sup>        23. Widow Hephzibah Wildes of a consumption.
- Decem<sup>r</sup>        28. Widow Abigail Fowler of a cancer.  
Aged 84.
- 
- Jan<sup>y</sup> 15, 1784. An infant child of John Gould.
- Jan<sup>y</sup>            23. Widow Jemima Fisk. Aged 69.
- Feby            20. Miriam, wife of Nehemiah Herrick, of a consumption. Aged 37.
- March           15. A child of David Hobbs, still born.
- April           29. Widow Mary Gould, of a complica<sup>n</sup> of disorders. Aged 73.
- May            26. Lydia Symons, of a consumption.  
Aged 66.
- June           3<sup>d</sup>. Jeremiah Perley in a very sudden manner (aged 35) occasioned by a part of a frame for a barn giving way, at the time of raising. A considerable number were wounded at the same time, tho' but few received any material injury.
- Sep<sup>r</sup>           16. Jacob Dwinnell of a Dropsy. Aged 70.
- Oct<sup>r</sup>           1<sup>st</sup>. Priscilla, wife of Nathaniel Herrick.  
Aged 32.
- Oct<sup>r</sup>           4<sup>th</sup>. Betty wife of David Balch Tertius, of a consumption.  $\text{Æt. } 22.$
- Decem<sup>r</sup>        26. Sarah Averell, a single person.
- 
- Feby 25, 1785. Anna wife of John Baker of a cancer.  
Aged 66.
- April           7. An infant child of Amos Hood.

- May            21. An infant child of David Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup>.  
 June          4. Widow Hanuah Averell of a consumption. Aged 75.  
 June          23. A child of Samson, a negro man, a year old.  
 July          1. A child of Roger Balch, 3 weeks old.  
 Sep<sup>r</sup>        7. Jeremy Averill.  
 Oct.          1. Molly, wife of Dan<sup>l</sup> Gould. Æt. 34.  
 Oct.          10. Aaron, son of David Balch, Jun<sup>r</sup>.  
 Oct.          16. Joseph Andrews.  
 Nov.         14. Samuel Smith Esq<sup>r</sup> of an apoplexy, 72.  
 Decem<sup>r</sup>      4. Molly, an infant, daughter of Daniel Gould.
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- Feby 21, 1786. Sara Gould, a single person.  
 March        4. Thomas Perkins.  
 March        27. Abra<sup>m</sup> Hobbs of a Dropsy. Æt. 67.  
 July         8. Abigail wife of Stephen Foster, Consumption, 46.  
 Sep<sup>r</sup>       25. Widow Martha Clarke of a putrid fever. Æt. 84.
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- Jan<sup>y</sup> 21, 1787. An infant, daughter of David Balch, Jun<sup>r</sup>.  
 April        17. David Balch of a palsy. Æt. 73.  
 May         21. An infant, daughter of Aaron Kneeland.  
 June        25. Elisha Willes, Complication of disorders. Æt. 67.  
 Decem<sup>r</sup>      15. Rhoda, wife of David Hobbs.
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- Jan<sup>y</sup> 25, 1788. Simon Bradstreet. Æt. 84.  
 Jan<sup>y</sup>        31. Joshua Towne, of an inflammatory fever. Æt. 65 years.

March	1 <sup>st</sup> . Polly, daughter of Elisha Perkins. Canker-rash. $\text{Æt}$ . 2 years & $\frac{1}{2}$ .
March	26. Anna, wife of Israel Clarke.
April	15. Jacob, an infant son of John Dwinell.
April	17. John Perkins Jun <sup>r</sup> of a Scarlet Fev. 31.
Oct.	7. Hannah wife of Deacon Solomon Dodge.
Oct.	19. Josiah Son of Josiah Lamson.
December 20 <sup>th</sup> 1788.	Ester Gould, widow of Deacon John Gould. $\text{Æt}$ . 71.

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Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1789. Israel Clark, aged 88.

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March 19 <sup>th</sup> A.D. 1790.	Mary Perkins, Relict of Capt. John Perkins. Aged 76.
March	23 <sup>d</sup> . Rebecca Foster, Relict of Deacon Stephen Foster. Aged 75.
April	1 <sup>st</sup> . Mrs Elizabeth Emerson, Widow of ye Rev. John Emerson. Aged 81.
April	5 <sup>th</sup> . Hannah Gould wife of Nathaniel Gould. $\text{Æt}$ 34.
May	7 <sup>th</sup> . Daniel Esty Jr. $\text{Æt}$ . 21.
May	18 <sup>th</sup> . Nathaniel Bragg. $\text{Æt}$ . 88.
May	22. Mrs Averill Widow' of Capt Averill deceased. $\text{Æt}$ . 84.
July	21 <sup>st</sup> . Israel Clark. $\text{Æt}$ . 58.
Oct <sup>r</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> . Doctr Joseph Bradstreet. Aged —.
Oct <sup>r</sup>	23 <sup>d</sup> . Capt Stephen Perkins. Aged 64.
Nov.	17 <sup>th</sup> . Mehitable Kimball Daughter of Mr Jacob Kimball. Aged 32 [Total 11].

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> A.D. 1791. Sally Gould wife of John Gould 3<sup>rd</sup>  
aged —.

Jan.	10 <sup>th</sup> .	Thomas Symonds. Æt. 80.
March	30 <sup>th</sup> .	Mrs Cummins Wife of Joseph Cummins.
June	6 <sup>th</sup> .	Mrs Lucy Cleaveland wife of Nehemiah Cleaveland Esq <sup>r</sup> . Æt. 29.
June	14 <sup>th</sup> .	Jacob Averell. Æt. 88.
July	13 <sup>th</sup> .	Stephen Foster. Æt. —.
Sept	9 <sup>th</sup> .	Anna Hobbs. Widow. Æt. 82.
Oct <sup>r</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> .	Widow Porter. Æt. 81. [Total 8].

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Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1792. A child of Oliver Perkins.

Jan	20 <sup>th</sup> .	A child of Jacob Towne Jun <sup>r</sup> .
April	—.	Rebeca Gould wife of Zacheus Gould. Æt. 70.
May	4 <sup>th</sup> .	Nathan Hood. Æt. 87.
July	—.	Robert, a child of Robert Lake. Aged 3 years.
—	—.	David, a child of John Gould. Aged 2 years.
July	22 <sup>d</sup> .	Mrs Anna Cummings, Widow of Rev <sup>d</sup> Joseph Cummings. Æt. 38.
Aug <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> .	Samson, a negro man. Æt. 60.
Sept.	29 <sup>th</sup> .	Priscilla Kimball Daughter of Jacob Kimball Æt. 27 <sup>th</sup> .
Oct <sup>r</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> .	The Widow Hovey. Æt. 72.
Oct <sup>r</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup> .	A Child of Asehel Huntington.
December	6 <sup>th</sup> .	Mrs Cummings Wife of Cap <sup>t</sup> Thomas Cummings. Æt. —.
December	7 <sup>th</sup> .	Mrs Priscilla Kimball, wife of Mr. Ja- cob Kimball. Æt. —.

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January 2<sup>d</sup>, 1793. Mr Zacheus Gould. Æt. 75.

April	—.	Anna Wallis, Æt. 73.
June	—.	M <sup>r</sup> Butman. Æt. 16.
Aug <sup>t</sup>	—.	A child of John Perkins, Jn <sup>r</sup> . Drowned Æt. 6 years.
Sept.	—.	M <sup>rs</sup> Gould wife of Simon Gould, quite aged.
Sept	10 <sup>th</sup> .	M <sup>r</sup> Ephraim Towne Æt. 68.
Oct <sup>r</sup>	—.	Asa Bradstreet. Æt. 25. Killed by y <sup>e</sup> Wheels of a loaded Waggon which passed over his head.
—		A child of Dudley Wildes, infant.

January 22<sup>d</sup>, 1794. Betsy Perkins Daughter of Amos Per-  
kins. Æt. 29.

Jan.	27 <sup>th</sup> .	Nathan Perkins. Æt. 64.
Feb.	—.	A child of John Perkins, Jn <sup>r</sup> .
March	1 <sup>st</sup> .	Widow Rebecca Balch. Æt. 80.
April	—.	Cap <sup>t</sup> Joseph Cummings. Æt. 101.
May	—.	John Cree. Æt. 72.
June	21 <sup>st</sup> .	Widow Dorman. M <sup>rs</sup> Symonds.
December.		A child of Asa Perkins. 3 y <sup>rs</sup> old.

Feb. 18, 1795.	M <sup>rs</sup> Lake.	Æt. 65.
March	2 <sup>d</sup> .	Jemima Fisk. Æt. 46.
April	25 <sup>th</sup> .	Lydia Kimball. Æt. 22.
April	27 <sup>th</sup> .	Experience a child of Nehe <sup>h</sup> Cleaveland.
May	13 <sup>th</sup> .	The Widow Rust. Æt. 90.
June	2 <sup>d</sup> .	Benjamin Bixby, Jr. Aged 17 years. Humphry, a son of Zaccheus Gould. Aged two & half years.
—		A child of Stephen Perley 2 <sup>d</sup> Æt. 5 years.

- June            22<sup>d</sup>. Oliver, a son of Simon Gould, Jr.  
                    Aged 5 years.
- July            12<sup>th</sup>. Joshua Conant.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 15 yrs.
- July            15<sup>th</sup>. A child of Elijah Gould.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 5 months.
- July            19<sup>th</sup>. A child of Elijah Gould.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 24 yrs.
- Aug<sup>st</sup>        21<sup>st</sup>. Cornelius Balch.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 45.
- Aug<sup>st</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> & Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. Two children of Joseph Cree  
                    one aged three, & ye other five  
                    years. Both buried at once.
- Sept.          4<sup>th</sup> John Cree, a child of Joseph Cree.  
                     $\text{\AA}$ Et, short of a year.
- Oct<sup>r</sup>          14<sup>th</sup>. A child of John Perkins, Jr.  
                    The above children & youth who have  
                    died since June 1<sup>st</sup> Died with ye  
                    Scarlatina Anginasa.
- Oct<sup>r</sup>          27<sup>th</sup>. Abraham Foster.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 77. In usual  
                    health, fainted & Died in a moment.
- Oct<sup>r</sup>          29<sup>th</sup>. A son of the Widow Towne Aged ten  
                    years — of ye scarletina.
- Decembr        17<sup>th</sup>. John Perkins of a lingering illness.  
                     $\text{\AA}$ Et. 74.
- Decembr        20<sup>th</sup>. Mr Rhodes a native of Marblehead,  
                    found Dead in ye in field.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 52.

- March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1796. Eliezer Lake.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 67 years.
- 
- Samuel Cummings.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 64 years.
- 
- A child of Thomas Tenney.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 5  
                    years.
- April          5<sup>th</sup>. Betsey Gould.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 22.
- April          7<sup>th</sup>. Phillip Kneeland.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 82 years.
- April          11<sup>th</sup>. Nehemiah, son of Nehemiah Cleveland,  
                    a Child  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 3 years. Scarletina.
- May            8<sup>th</sup>. Hannah Moore.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 20 years. Con-  
                    sumption.

July	—.	A child of Jonas Merriam $\text{\AA}$ Et. 3 months.
August	11 <sup>th</sup> .	A child of Simon Gould Jr $\text{\AA}$ Et. 7 months. Scarletina.
Sept.	9 <sup>th</sup> .	A child of Daniel Bordman $\text{\AA}$ Et. 8 years. Scarletina.
Oct <sup>r</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup> .	Stephen Perkins. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 50. Iliac Passion.
Nov <sup>r</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup> .	David Kimball $\text{\AA}$ Et. 24. Putrid fever.
Decem <sup>b</sup> r	11 <sup>th</sup> .	William Perkins $\text{\AA}$ Et. 32. Consumption.

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June 14 <sup>th</sup>	1797.	John Rea, aged 67 years Dropsey.
June	28 <sup>th</sup> .	Priscilla Smith Widdow of Sam <sup>ll</sup> Smith Esq <sup>r</sup> Deceased, $\text{\AA}$ Et. 83. [The above is recorded May 27, 1797, on Town Records.]
Sep <sup>t</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> .	M <sup>rs</sup> Averell Wife of Elijah Averell. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 36 years.
Oct <sup>r</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup> .	John Lamson. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 70 years. Two infant, twin children of Moses Averell.
Nov <sup>r</sup>		M <sup>rs</sup> Cummings Wife of Jonathan Cummings. M <sup>rs</sup> Elisabeth wife of Mr Jonathan Cummings departed this life october 20 <sup>th</sup> 1797 aged 52 years.

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February 21<sup>st</sup>, 1798. A child of Joseph Gould.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. one year.

Died at Topsfield on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1798 at the dwelling house of Daniel Balch, Jacob Cale aged about 16 years a Native of Edenton in North Carolina.

July	25 <sup>th</sup> .	John Balch $\text{\AA}$ Et. 59. very suddenly.
July	29 <sup>th</sup> .	Moses Averell. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 29.
Sept <sup>r</sup>		John Le Favour. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 81.
Oct <sup>r</sup>		Mrs Plummer. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 36.
Nov		Mr Plummer.
Decembr		Widdow Kezia Dunnel. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 80.

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January	24 <sup>th</sup>	1799. A child of Sylvanus Willes. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 3 y <sup>r</sup> .
January	28 <sup>th</sup> .	A child of Israel Rea. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 2 years.
Feb.	16 <sup>th</sup> .	The wife of Elnathan Hubbard. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 50 years. :
Feby	20 <sup>th</sup> .	Abigail Towne sister of David and Joseph Towne. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 56.
March	17 <sup>th</sup> .	An Infant child of Joseph Gould, Jur.
May	22 <sup>d</sup> .	Widdow Priscilla Averell $\text{\AA}$ Et. 94 years.
Sept <sup>r</sup>	22 <sup>d</sup> .	A child of Abraham Hobbs, Jr $\text{\AA}$ Et. 3 months.
Oct <sup>r</sup>	27.	Ephraim Towne, Ju <sup>r</sup> . $\text{\AA}$ Et. 21 years.
Nov.	9 <sup>th</sup> .	Richard an infant child of John Hood, Jr.

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May 8,	1800.	Black child belonging to Nantz. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 2 years.
May	12 <sup>th</sup> .	Mrs Elisabeth Towne, wife of Jacob Towne. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 68.
June	12 <sup>th</sup> .	A child of Thomas Perkins. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 8.
June	24 <sup>th</sup> .	John Conant, suddenly. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 32.
June	29 <sup>th</sup> .	Widdow Ruth Cree. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 71.
July	21 <sup>st</sup> .	An infant child of Enos Lake } Twins.
Aug <sup>st</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> .	An infant child of Enos Lake }
Aug <sup>st</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> .	Widdow Sarah Towne, Relict of Eph- raim Towne. $\text{\AA}$ Et. 72.

- July            27<sup>th</sup>. An infant child belonging to Abra<sup>m</sup>  
                    Hobbs, Jr.
- Aug<sup>st</sup>        22. Nathaniel Foster.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 37.
- Sept<sup>r</sup>        20<sup>th</sup>. Isaac Averell, Jr A.M. Candidate for  
                    the ministry. Was under a call f<sup>or</sup>  
                    y<sup>e</sup> chh. in Brookfield south parish.  
                    The 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Oct<sup>r</sup> was appointed  
                    for his ordination.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 33.
- Sept<sup>r</sup>        29. Fanny Perley Daughter of Stephen  
                    Perley.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 13.
- October        12<sup>th</sup>. Catharine Wildes.  $\text{\AA}$ Et. 86.

## Letters From a Gold Hunter.

**CALIFORNIA JOURNALS AND CORRESPONDENCE OF DAVID LAKE OF TOPSFIELD,  
MASS., 1852-1855.**

EDITED BY GEO. FR. DOW.

In the spring of 1848, San Francisco on the Californian coast was a village of about seven hundred inhabitants, and boasted of two weekly newspapers, the "Californian" and the "California Star." On the 15th of March of that year the former printed a short paragraph saying that gold had been discovered at Sutter's mill on the American river. The news received but passing attention at the time but soon came accounts of the increasing production of gold and men began to leave for the mines in large numbers. By the middle of June the news had spread over the whole territory, and stores, workshops, wives and even fields of ripened grain were left to care for themselves.

The Pacific seaports were soon filled with the contagion of gold excitement, but it was not until the latter part of the year that the news reached the Atlantic sea board, and even then it was received with but little credence, but the arrival of large amounts of "dust" at Panama and New York in the latter part of the winter, put an end to all doubt and caused a rush of migration unparalleled in modern history. Rumor had it, and the newspapers of the day confirmed the story, that the valleys and ravines of the Pacific coast showed the presence of vast

deposits of nuggets and particles of pure gold. Any man who could wield a pick and shovel and a tin pan for washing the dirt was sure of a fortune. The wildest excitement prevailed throughout the country and every city and town furnished its quota of feverish gold seekers. Men of all ages and occupations joined in the mad rush for sudden wealth.

The adventurers had several routes from which to choose. Those from New England and the Middle States generally went by sailing vessel via Cape Horn; those from the Southern States chose the Isthmus of Panama, or Mexico, while the Western pioneers braved the perils and hardships of the prairie trails and Rocky Mountain passes. The Essex county men in the early stages of the rush almost without exception went via the Cape in small sailing vessels from Newburyport or Boston. Schooners, brigs, sailing vessels of all ages and conditions were transformed by a coat of paint, and after fitting out for the long voyage sailed with full passenger lists, too often in the direction of misery, shipwreck and death.

The first to go from Topsfield were the brothers Constantine and Alfred McKenzie and Nathaniel Foster, the first two sailing from Boston Nov. 13, 1849 in the B. L. Allen, a schooner of only 150 tons. Capt.

Isaac Morgan, afterwards of this town, commander, while Foster sailed on the same day from Newburyport in the bark Anna, Capt. Savory. Singularly enough the two vessels reached Cape Horn on the same day, the passengers of the B. L. Allen making a landing on Horn Island. The Allen carried twenty passengers and a crew of nine men. The passage cost each man \$125. Constantine McKenzie found a permanent home in California, at last meeting an untimely fate in Jan. 1896 in a lonely gulch in the mountains. No one knows the exact manner of his death, but his remains were found in the ruins of a burned log cabin and it was supposed that robbers had committed the fell crime. Alfred McKenzie is now living in Peabody and Nathaniel Foster lives in Linebrook Parish, Ipswich.

The early 50's saw a number of Topsfield men start for the Golden Gate. Ariel Gould, who afterwards carried on a large butchering business in town; Peter Creelman, a Scotchman who lived on what is now the Webster place; Emerson P. Gould, who afterwards enlisted in the army and died in a hospital at Baton Rouge, La.; Charles Foster, who lived just over the line in Boxford; John Brown Lake, who returned home after reaching Panama; Dean Perley, who now lives in Danvers and is engaged in the blacksmith business; Gorham Scribner, David Lake, the principal of this journal and David G. Lake his son, were among the number. David Lake, Jr., was the son of David and Sally Lake. He was born in Topsfield in 1807, and married first Lucy Putnam

Gould, second, Harriet Wilkins of Middleton. His children were David G., who went to California in 1854 and is now living in Peabody; Henry W., now living in Topsfield; George W., living in Nagasaki, Japan; Sarah H., married Wm Garrett, lives at the old homestead; Edward, in business at Nagasaki, Japan.

His California journals and correspondence are here arranged in the form of a personal narrative though not confined to his exact phraseology.

#### NARRATIVE.

It was on Monday morning, February 2nd, 1852, that I left home bound for California. William H. Balch drove me to Salem, for the Newburyport railroad had not been built. We reached Salem at about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock and after waiting about the station until after one o'clock I asked the depot master when the train would arrive. He said he didn't know, it should have arrived an hour before. As the train for New York left the Worcester depot in Boston at 3 o'clock, it looked rather discouraging for me, but Balch went to Leavitt's stable and had a fresh horse harnessed and we put for Boston. The travelling was bad but we reached the depot at five minutes before three, so I had just time to get my ticket and put my baggage aboard. At New Haven I found John Brown Lake who had left Topsfield the previous day, and in New York we found Myles and Charles Sweeney of Boston who were known in Topsfield and afterwards lived there.

We arrived in New York after

midnight, and the next morning purchased our tickets for Chagres, the port on this side of the Isthmus of Panama, sailing at one o'clock on the steamer Crescent City, the decks crowded with men bound for California. Not a great deal happened of interest on the voyage. At first a good many were sea sick of course, but after reaching the Gulf stream the weather was fine and we enjoyed the voyage. The fare was good, generally beef and pork with bread and coffee for breakfast; for dinner beef, boiled beans and bread, and boiled rice, boiled in grease I should think. When supper time came around we had bread and butter and apple sauce with plenty of hot tea. We were divided off into messes of one hundred each. The third day out a man was killed by the crank of the engine. He died instantly. His neck was broken and his head badly crushed. They threw the body overboard without much ceremony. The last part of the voyage we got but two meals a day, but as it was hot, and not being able to exercise very much, it was all we needed. One day one of the waiters, a young fellow, was punished for insulting some of the passengers. He was taken to the hurricane deck and his hands were tied to the railing. Then the mate took the hose and gave him a soaking. The captain was present.

We reached the harbor of Chagres on Sunday morning. The steamer had to anchor about two miles from the shore and we were taken to the landing in small boats. As soon as we reached land a bargain was made with some native boatmen and about noon we started in a small boat up

the Chagres river bound for Panama, making about twenty miles that afternoon. Early the next morning we were off again and at night had arrived within six miles of Gorgona. We slept in the boat as we had the previous night and in the morning with about 200 others, started on foot for Gorgona, with two Indian boys as guides. The current of the river was very rapid at this point and the boatmen could only take our baggage, so there was nothing to do but walk. Our sail up the river was very pleasant, the flowers were so bright and everything looked so green. We saw several small alligators sunning themselves on the trunks of trees as they lay in the water. On the tramp to Gorgona the guides lost their way twice and we were pretty tired on reaching the town.

After breakfasting, mules were hired to carry us to Panama, about twenty-five miles further on. We were nearly nine hours in going and the road was the worst thing called a road that I ever saw in my life. It was nothing but a narrow path. Sometimes the banks on each side were higher than my head and only wide enough for one mule to pass through. The first part of the road was composed of water, stones and mud—mostly mud. The mule would first pitch me on to his neck; then his hind feet sinking deeply into the mud would throw me back towards his tail and every now and then he would suddenly lie down and bring me up standing in mud half way up to my knees.

Finally reaching Panama we put up at the California House. The

rate was \$1.50 per day. Our party consisted of Myles and Charles Sweeney, Peter Creelman, John Brown Lake and myself. While looking round for a passage up the coast we decided to board ourselves and so took part of our baggage and started for the woods, locating about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Panama, near a small brook. We built a shanty with the branches of trees, a very comfortable shelter. There were hundreds of just such cabins all around us.

Panama was a miserable looking place. The buildings were very old and a great many of them tumbling down. The drinking water was very poor. All the wells were dry and water had to be brought on mule-back from some distance. In wandering around one day I came across the ruins of the old city of Panama which I found out was destroyed by Spanish pirates more than two hundred years ago. On some of the crumbling walls were trees that had grown to a diameter of five or six feet. There was an arched gateway some forty feet high, and ruins of stone fountains and baths.

Near our camp were a great many Indians. They were a shiftless lot. The women did the washing for the inhabitants of Panama. It was a great sight to see them on the banks of the brook washing clothes, having only a small piece of cloth tied around their hips. The men, or the greater number of them, were as lightly clad, while the children never wore anything. One day an Indian woman came up near our cabin without the least thing on and dove into the water in front of quite a crowd.

She swam under water a longer distance than I ever saw anybody before.

But we didn't expect on starting for California to spend our time waiting around Panama. The gold fever had brought an immense number of men from the States and the few steamers and sailing vessels on the Pacific coast couldn't begin to furnish a sufficient number of passages. Several sailing vessels were in the bay and the steamer Tennessee as well, but she was a mail steamer and would only take passengers having tickets sold via the mail line. The prospect was discouraging and after waiting about for nearly two weeks, John Brown Lake and Samuel Goodell, who was from Boxford and arrived shortly after we did, became faint hearted and announced that they were going home. I was sorry to part with them, but they couldn't be shaken from their purpose, so February 25th they started back across the Isthmus, carrying with them many messages to the loved ones at home.

The days dragged slowly by until finally, early in March, I secured a passage in the bark Emily, Capt. Hervy. The Sweenys went on the Clarissa Andrews, sailing a few days after I did. There were about 200 of us on board and the food was at first sufficient and in a way satisfactory, but the supply of water soon became reduced. When we started each man's ration per day was  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pints of water, a pint of coffee, a pint of beef tea, plenty of pork, about half a pound of bread and half a pound of flour which we made into duff, nothing more or less than flour

mixed in water and boiled in a bag. But before long supplies began to run short and the latter part of May the daily ration was a quart of water, five table-spoonfuls of flour, three ounces of bread, a pint of rice and three table-spoonfuls of sugar. Not a very large amount of eatables for a hungry man. To be sure salt beef could be had, but with so little water we found we had better stop eating it as a hollow stomach was preferable to a burning thirst.

On the 28th of May we reached Massanilla on the Mexican coast and put in for provisions. The natives came off to our vessel in boats made of the butt of a tree. The town wasn't much of a place; only about thirty native huts. After staying here two days we sailed for San Blas, 180 miles farther up the coast, arriving there on the afternoon of June 9th. Fourteen vessels lay at anchor in the bay and the view along the shore line was magnificent. About the town was a collection of native huts, simple affairs roofed with grass and palm branches, but the natives of the better classes, Spaniards and Mexicans, lived and dressed much as we do, save that all had a fancy for bright colors. The men went about with a richly hued blanket hanging over one shoulder. Sometimes for a change a hole would be cut in the centre and the blanket would hang down before and behind. All wore broad brimmed hats.

At San Blas some ninety of our passengers left, each receiving \$15 passage money from the captain, and went on board a bark lying in the bay bound for California. Those of us who were left didn't feel sorry

over their departure for it gave us more and better accommodations. We little thought as we saw them sail out to sea that more than a month would elapse before we got away from that half dead and alive Mexican settlement.

When we reached San Blas the supply of provisions on the Emily was nearly exhausted, and we had not been there very long when it came out that Capt. Hervey hadn't money to buy enough more to take us to California. After making some arrangements on shore whereby we were supplied with fresh cow beef and coarse bread every day, he started for Tepic, a town about 40 miles inland, where the United States consul lived, to try and raise money on the vessel. The cargo of the Emily consisted of about 500 tons of coal and that was really the only thing that saved us. Coal was in demand on the coast and brought a good price at Acapulco, where the steamers made a landing. The captain didn't want to give up his vessel into the consul's hands for the benefit of the passengers and so made several propositions to committees we sent to see him. There were two or three other vessels near by and one of them wanted to take us up the coast, so Capt. Hervey drew up a subscription paper and passed it around. All he could raise was \$1020, not enough with what he already had to charter the vessel, so that fine plan went up in smoke. Finally after wearisome delays the consul took possession of the Emily and advanced us \$37 apiece indemnity, the value of the coal. A committee was then appointed to charter a vessel and after

more delays they reported that the captain of the brig Archibald Gracia would take us for \$40 a head. That meant \$500 more than the coal would bring, and we attempted to raise it, but \$400 was all we had. After more negotiations somebody paid the \$100. I think it must have been Capt. Hervey.

Capt. Peters of the Archibald Gracia hired three or four native huts and July 18th we left the Emily for good. Instead of receiving daily rations we were given a loaf of bread and twenty cents each to purchase provisions. I went to the baker's every night and bought good warm bread or cakes. There were two bake-houses but they would only bake at just such times. They were an awfully lazy set. Might have sold three times as much bread as they did if they would only bake it. For that matter I couldn't see what supported the natives, anyway, for they never seemed to do any work.

There were three butchers in San Blas and the sign they hung out was a red flag. I was interested in the way in which they cut up their beef. They would hang up a quarter and beginning on the leg cut down the whole length in narrow strips. What little meat was left on the bone was dried and called jerked beef. Beef was worth 12 cents a pound and pork the same. About a pint of the smallest potatoes I ever saw brought 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Flour was worth \$12.00 per hundred pounds, and coffee was sold done up in small papers, about three tea-spoonfuls for 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. The women appeared to do about all the business,

tending store, buying provisions, etc.

Sunday was the same as any other day in the week. The shops all kept open. There was a Catholic church about two miles away from the town, but I couldn't find out that they ever had any service.

There was a tavern in the place kept by an Englishman, who had married a Mexican woman. She was enormously stout, and must have weighed 300 pounds. Near the tavern were a few very large shade trees and on a branch of one of them I carved my full name and the town I came from.

Not far off were the ruins of an old castle and near by was a new one only half completed. It was situated on a very high hill from which there was a splendid view of the bay and the river winding its way back into the country. Pious Catholics had erected a shrine at the foot of the hill, with an altar and crucifix, ornamented with candles and flowers.

Fourth of July we had spent on board the Emily. All the celebration I saw was a sunrise and sunset gun on board the American bark with colors flying all day. My thoughts went back to the old home in Topsfield, and I wondered if my boys had got their fire crackers and were enjoying themselves. We were in particularly hard lines about that time. Nothing was cooked for us save tea night and morning, but as there was plenty of rice aboard we boiled that and got along as best we could with only two cooking stoves among 150 men. The man who got his rice on the stove first was the best fellow.

Early on the morning of the 27th of July we went on board the Archi-

bald Gracia and just after sunrise sailed out into the bay. Nearly 200 passengers were on board; 152 coming on the Emily, 16 more from Mazatlan on the Archibald and about 20 from a vessel that had been condemned at Massanilla. The captain had his wife with him. She was a Mexican and it was reported, very wealthy. There were several other Mexican passengers, one having his fifteen year old wife with him.

The brig carried two bulls and seventy-five pigs to help out on the provisions. At first we fared very well with soup made of jerked beef; boiled beans and potatoes;  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of bread, with coffee, tea and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pints of water per day. The second Sunday out one of the bulls was killed and we had bull-beef soup for dinner. The weather was pleasant and we made Cape St. Lucas on the southern California coast on Aug. 14th. On the thirteenth day out we were given only a pint of water and a little beef soup. There was a good deal of sickness on board, over sixty being on the doctor's list ill with dysentery or fever and ague. A great many suffered from lack of water, and for three days in succession I gave my allowance to some sick men. My health was excellent considering the surroundings, for which I was very thankful, for the sick suffered greatly from lack of water and proper nourishment. They had the same allowance of food as we well men, but no medicine, for the small supply on board was soon exhausted. The water allowance was cut down again on the 18th, and my dinner that day consisted of ten little pig potatoes and a piece of jerked beef about as

large as two fingers. The next night a young man from New Jersey named William Little, who had shared my berth and was one of our mess, died of dysentery. The body was tossed over the side after a short burial service. It was a most revolting sight to see the sick passengers crawling about the decks, pale and yellow as death, mere walking skeletons. Some had very sore mouths, and could eat our coarse fare only with difficulty. A few days later the water ration was cut down again, this time to only a pint daily, with no tea or coffee. Our dinner that day was ten small pig potatoes, and a small raw onion. They told us that our supper would be what we could get, and that was all we did get—absolutely nothing, and so the days dragged slowly by. Capt. Peters had expressed great surprise at our treatment on the Emily. when the Archibald Gracia was chartered, but he had now proved himself a two faced villain. The water and provisions taken aboard on our account were of poor quality and insufficient for even thirty days. We didn't reach San Francisco until Sept. 11th, spending forty-seven days in his starving pen. Toward the latter part of the voyage drinking water became almost priceless; a junk bottle full was worth a dollar. Many a dollar have I seen spent for water, dollars that were needed badly enough when California was finally reached. I remember one day I was fortunate enough to get a bone a sailor was about throwing overboard. It was salt pork freshened somewhat, and had a little meat clinging to it. After eating all I

dared, I gave it to a young man near me. How he thanked me—I remember it even now. Nothing but the bone remained when he had finished. At last land was sighted, a most welcome sight and with it came an extra pint of water for each, but a small amount when a man was as dry and faint as we were. The weather fortunately had been cool or our sufferings would have been intense.

On the afternoon of the 11th of September we sailed through the capes into the Bay of San Francisco and the next morning landed, grateful that our lives had been spared. Health officers came aboard and took off thirteen men who were unable to help themselves and carried them off to some hospital. I never learned how many recovered, most of them, no doubt. We were all barely able to move about, mere skeletons. I could easily clasp one hand around my ankle. For the last fourteen days of the voyage we had had no bread and but a pint of water a day, nothing but pig potatoes and a little pork to keep soul and body together.

I kept a list of those who died and were thrown overboard on the two vessels, the Emily and the Archibald Gracia. The list is of interest and may be historically valuable. One case in particular struck me as singular. Leonard Batchelder and Albert Kathern, both from the same town in Vermont, were great friends, always together, sleeping in the same berth. Strong fellows born and bred in the country, the hardships of the voyage were too much for them. They died on the same day, the 21st of August. The bodies lay side by

side on the deck, the burial service was read, and all that was mortal sank into the waves far away from home and among strangers.

List of those who died on board the brig Emily between Panama and San Blas, and on the brig Archibald Gracia between San Blas and San Francisco in the year 1852.

	DIED.	NAME.	STATE.	AGE.
	Mar. 16,	Julius Bailey,	North Carolina,	17
	17,	H. F. Gatt,	Georgia,	28
	17,	Clifford Stone,	Georgia,	20
	20,	Alfred Drake,	Wisconsin,	28
	28,	James Hickey,	Louisiana,	21
	27,	Daniel B. Reed,	Georgia,	28
Apr.	6,	James White,	Vermont,	24
	12,	Ira Norton,	Georgia,	25
	12,	George W. Myers,	Georgia,	20
	19,	Adolphus Stone,	Georgia,	28
May	2,	Thomas Roberts,	Indiana,	19
	9,	Smith Shelding,	New York,	—
	11,	Ranclier Van Deuseen,	N. Y.	28
	12,	Orlin Burnham,	New York,	25
	13,	Cornelius Rowe,	Ohio,	52
	28,	James M. Anderson,	Georgia,	28
June	2,	Paul Storks,	Georgia,	36
	14,	Joseph Lemanse,	Georgia,	52
	26,	Anthony —,	North Carolina,	—
Aug.	6,	James McKinney,	Louisiana,	26
	7,	Antonio Ring,	San Blas,	20
	11,	Chas. E. Reed,	Boston, Mass.	22
	15,	Samuel H. Heath,	Georgia,	42
	16,	Frederick Brown,	Ohio,	22
	19,	Henry Claus,	Ohio,	28
	19,	James F. Copeling,	Georgia,	35
	19,	Burnet Dyre,	Upper Canada,	40
	20,	Leonard L. Small,	Maine,	22
	20,	William Little,	New Jersey,	20
	21,	Leonard Batchelder,	Vt.,	36
	21,	Albert Kathern,	Vermont,	28
	22,	Gager Roberts,	Georgia,	19
	28,	Hallet Lanning,	Indiana,	24
	26,	James Rafferty,	New York,	28
	27,	Absalom Finley,	Georgia,	82
	31,	David Taylor,	New Jersey,	27
Sept. 8,		William McCatchings,	Ga.,	18

The day we landed I found near the wharf Capt. Wm. Morgan who afterwards lived in Topsfield and married Miss Ellen Kimball, daughter of William E. Kimball. He told

me where I could find my wife's cousin, Wm. Wallace Wilkins, who was from Middleton. He was living about twenty miles south from San Francisco, carrying on a farm called Boemus Ranch. There was no way of getting there except by water, so I thought myself fortunate in finding a boat going down the coast that very day. William was glad to see me, and as it was said to be unhealthy in the mining camps at that season of the year he told me to stay with him and work what little I could on the ranch, and so I did, for nearly three months, slowly gaining in flesh and strength.

Game was plentiful and our farm products brought big prices in the San Francisco markets. Eggs were worth \$1.50 a dozen and butter the same price per pound. Potatoes brought four cents a pound, beans eight cents, and milk easily sold at thirty-seven cents a quart.

But gold dust was what I was after, and as my strength came back I grew anxious to try my luck in the camps, so early in December I said good-bye to Boemus Ranch and started for Sacramento city. When I arrived, there was but little of the city left, for a fire had swept away everything but a few scattering buildings a few days before. A large number of temporary buildings were going up and everything was in confusion. It was the dirtiest and muddiest place I had ever seen. The river was high and a levee along the bank was the only thing that prevented an inundation.

From Sacramento City I started on foot for Mormon Island, a mining camp on the south fork of the Amer-

ican river. The settlement comprised some twenty-five fair sized frame buildings, and hundreds of miner's huts built of a few pieces of joist or straight limbs of trees stuck into the ground and then covered with canvas. It was a curious mixture of nationalities gathered in that mining camp. Men from all over the United States, with a good many foreigners. Chinese were there and passed up and down daily from the settlements up the river, while a few digger Indians hung around the taverns. They were an ugly looking lot. I was told they burnt their dead as an emblem of mourning, afterwards using the ashes mixed with the sap of the pine tree as a paint to daub on their faces. I saw several Indian women so decorated.

It was the rainy season and mining at that time of year meant exposure with much hardship. Fortunately a good berth turned up at a tavern kept by a man named Jarvis where I earned my board and forty dollars a month until the following spring. One Sunday afternoon the latter part of April, I took a walk down the river to a place called Brown's ravine, and happened to find a man there washing for gold. We talked mining and I soon struck up a bargain for a cradle and a right to work in his claim. The next day came my first actual experience in gold mining. It was slow work washing out the dust. The first two weeks I earned a little over \$32, it costing me about fifty cents a day for provisions, but I soon grew more skillful and by July the weekly average was about \$30. Some weeks

it would be nearly \$50, and one day early in August I washed out dust that brought \$12.75. I continued successful, having better luck than any of the men around me. Skill I called it, for I had bought a claim that was considered of little value and yet was washing out more gold a day than any of the other miners at the Island. My claim was on top of a hill back of our cabin. Water came from a spring near the top and was diverted to flow over a ledge into sluice boxes where the gravel was washed and the particles of gold separated. It was monotonous work, the day's labor beginning at sunrise and lasting until darkness came down upon us.

Life at the Island offered usually but little excitement. I saw but little of the gambling and rioting said to be associated with mining life. Once in a while an accident would happen, timbers giving away in some shaft, with broken limbs as a result, and sometimes a poor miner buried alive. Theft of course was not unknown, but when caught the miners were not particularly careful how they handled the thief. One day two fellows who stole \$200, from a sick man were lashed with knotted ropes until their backs were raw and streaming with blood, then taken before a justice who sent them to Sacramento jail. One of the rogues died from the effects of the whipping. Another time a negro stole eleven dollars from a miner's cabin. In some way it was discovered that he committed the theft and after a barrel head hearing of the evidence, a rope was brought and in no time the poor devil was swinging from the

limb of a tree near at hand. Murderers were treated to the same medicine. A Spaniard stabbed a man in the side one afternoon as the result of a quarrel. The miner lived only a few hours, dying at about five o'clock. Twenty minutes later the Spaniard was hanging lifeless from the limb of a tree. Lynch law, you will say. True, but in some respects better than the long drawn out trial in Massachusetts, where the lawyer pleads insanity and after hunting up evidence in proof, the murderer is finally sent to an insane asylum, in time to become cured and turned loose again on society.

New men from the States frequently reached the Island, many of them expecting to find fortunes waiting for them and when realizing the difficulties in the way wishing themselves safely home again.

The following list of prices prevailed at Mormon Island in June, 1853.

Flour,	per pound,	.09
Lard,	"	.32
Beans,	"	.12 $\frac{1}{4}$
Butter,	"	.60
Sugar,	"	.15
Salmon,	"	.10
Onions,	"	.50
Potatoes,	"	.15
Pork steak,	"	.75
Eggs,	per dozen,	\$3.00
Milk,	per quart,	.25
Newspapers,	each,	.12 $\frac{1}{4}$

David Lake abandoned mining in 1855, and returned home early in the Fall, via the Isthmus. Of the return trip I can learn nothing, there being no written account, but the motives for the homeward journey are shown

to have been unsettled business matters at home, and ill health, brought about by a fractured hip resulting from an accidental fall while mining. Mr. Lake lived on his farm in Topsfield until the Spring of 1859, when the old liking for the yellow dust caused him to start out again bound for California. April 15th found him on the steamer St. Louis, off the harbor of Aspinwall. A hurriedly penciled note, the last message his family ever received, told them he was about landing, and spoke of a slight illness that had overtaken him

the previous day. This caused no alarm at the time, but as the weeks and months rolled by and the mails brought no news from across the continent, the conviction slowly grew upon them that a second letter would never be received, that sickness and death had crossed his path. The captain of the Pacific steamer when questioned in San Francisco by a friend of the family, told of Mr. Lake's death on the first day out from Panama. He had crossed the Isthmus only to find a sailor's grave in the blue waters of the Pacific.



# The Howlett Mills.

WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF THE HOBBS FAMILY IN TOPSFIELD.

BY MARIETTA CLARKE.

The date of the erection of Howlett's gristmill may be placed, as nearly as can be ascertained from the records, between the years of 1738 and 1740. The sawmill was built some two or three years later. There is a tradition that a gristmill was located there much earlier than the above named date. The old mill is said to have been some distance back of the present one, at a bend in the brook directly opposite the site of William Howlett's house. I am also told that the conformation of the channel seems to indicate that there might have been at some time a dam farther back than the present one.

This is only hearsay and conjecture, but I have positive proof from old deeds that there were mills here of some kind, previous to the date above given. I quote the following from a deed given by William Howlett to his son Thomas Howlett dated July 30, 1709: "To my son Thomas Howlett, all that my farm, messuage or tenement on which I myself and my said son dwells. All which said tracts of land, whether pasturage, tillage, woodland or meadow ground on these bounds contained, together with all the buildings or dwelling houses, barns, outhouses, wells, springs, watercourses, fences, *mills*, trees, etc." Also from another deed given by William Howlett to his nephew John Howlett, dated May 21, 1715: "Convey all the said tracts of

land with all the buildings, dwelling houses, barns, outhouses, fences, *mills*, trees, etc." There is no mention of "mills" in Ensign Howlett's will dated 1677. They were therefore probably erected at some time between that date and 1709 by William Howlett.

Tradition further claims that these mills fell into disuse on account of trouble about flowing the meadows in the vicinity. This would seem to be confirmed by the following deposition given in one of Benjamin Hobbs' numerous lawsuits which also fixes, as nearly as can be ascertained, the date of erection of the present mill. Deposition: Dec. 20, 1803. "I, Mary Potter of Ipswich, in the county of Essex, widow, of lawful age, do testify that when I was about eighteen years of age, I was at a place called Howlett's in the town of Topsfield, in said county, where Mr. Hobbs' mill now stands, which was about sixty-five years ago, at which time there was no mill where Hobbs' mill now stands according to the best of my recollection." She also states that her brother, Elisha Cummings, then 85 years of age, was about twenty-five when the sawmill was built, and that the cornmill was erected some two or three years previous, both first owned by Thomas Howlett.

I have in my possession the first deed of these mills, given by Thomas Howlett to Nathaniel Hood, July 22,

1746. As it seems to me both an interesting and valuable historical document, I quote from it at length. "I, Thomas Howlett, of Topsfield, in Consideration of Eight hundred pounds to me paid by Nathaniel Hood, Housewright, Have given, etc., a Certain Tract of Land with a Corn Mill and Saw Mill Standing upon it and Containing by Estimation Six acres be it more or be it less, and bounded as followeth, Beginning at the South westerly Corner of the Bridge which is below the Mills Called Howlett's Bridge, thence westerly to a Stake and Stones on the Southerly side of both roads and about one pole and a half Southwesterly from the Little bridge near Tho. Howlett's house, thence Northwesterly about Ten poles to a Stake Standing about one pole from the middle of the road Leading from Capt. Perkinses to Ipswich, from thence to Capt. Tobijah Perkins his land, having one pole from the middle of ye road on the Southerly Side all along to ye fence in said perkins Line, thence northeasterly with sd perkins Land till it Comes to the Brook then Crossing the Brook by sd Perkinses Line till it Comes to mr. Burleys Land, then Southerly by sd Burleys Land to the northerly End of the Mill Dam, thence southerly about five or six Pole to an Elm Tree Standing on the northeasterly Side of the Brook, from thence to the Bounds first mentioned. To Have and to hold, etc.—

Thomas Howlett

Lydia Howlett

I have good reason to believe that the land here deeded to Nathaniel Hood is the same six acres which, in 1651, was granted by the town to

Ensign Thomas Howlett "wheare the said Ensigne have built his house." But in this deed there is no mention of any dwelling house, and Thomas Howlett is living on what was afterwards the Robinson place. I therefore conclude that he took advantage of the clause in his father's will which stated that "my son Thomas shall have liberty to pull down and carry away the newest end of my now dwelling house," and allowed the old part to go to decay.

I have tried to conjecture how it happened that this old deed should be in our possession and have thought it probable that Nathaniel Hood lived with Andrew Burley on what is now our farm while his own house was building. For Nathaniel Hood did build a house, as we ascertain from a deed afterwards given to Abraham Hobbs and dated 1749. Nathaniel Hood, who was a grandson of Richard, the first Hood who came into these parts, and an uncle, twice removed, of our esteemed townsman S. D. Hood, Esq., therefore lived here and owned the mill three years. By this second deed the owner reserves to himself "one half of the Saw Mill with Half the Saw Mill Tools & also Convenient yard room for the use of His part in sd Saw mill, it is also to be understood that the said Hood & his Heirs is to maintain a quarter part of the Dam now in being belonging to the said Mills, it is further to be understood ye sd Hood for Himself and Heirs doth Reserve Half the Stream leading to the Saw Mill, also the Dwelling House & Orchard Standing thereon." This dwelling house referred to must be the present

Perkins house. I am told that the frame of this house plainly shows that it was built at three different times. The east part is the oldest, therefore we conclude that this part was erected by Nathaniel Hood and must be about 150 years old.

The deed above referred to, dated March 25, 1749, gives us the date of Abraham Hobbs' first appearance in this part of the town. Henceforth the history of the Hobbs' is the history of the neighborhood. I have therefore endeavored to find out as much as possible about the family.

Jonathan Hobbs is said to be the first Hobbs who came to Ipswich. From him it is supposed that the Abraham was descended who married Susanna Abbott and lived in Hamilton. His son baptized Apr. 24, 1720 is the Abraham who married Sarah Brown of Ipswich, May 15, 1738 and afterwards came to Topsfield. Tradition claims that he had twelve children who were named after the twelve tribes of Israel. This, however, is not quite correct. We find recorded the births of ten children, all having good old Bible names. They were Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Joseph, Benjamin, David and Jonathan, Sarah, Elizabeth and Susanna. Of Isaac, Jacob and Joseph we know little except like other people they were born, married and died. The names of the other sons are found in many deeds and records.

The next deed of the mill, in order of time, is given by Abraham Hobbs to Arthur Browne, Feb. 25, 1752. Lydia Howlett, left a widow by the death of her husband Thomas in 1746, married Arthur Browne in

1751. The deed is as follows: "In consideration of the sum of four hundred seventy and five pounds to me in hand well and truly paid by Arthur Browne Clothier, I have given etc., one half of a certain Corn Mill and one quarter of a certain Saw mill being the same mills which Mr. Thomas Howlett dec'd once sold unto Mr. Nathaniel Hood: together with half of the Corn Mill and a quarter part of the saw mill Tools, also a proportionable part of the Dam and Stream belonging to said Mills."

May 5, 1758, we find the following paragraph in the will of Arthur Browne: "I, Arthur Browne, miller, being about to go into His Majesty's Service, give unto my well beloved wife Lydia Browne all my estate both real and personal to be at her own disposal forever."

Extract from inventory of his estate. "To half a corn mill and a quarter of a saw mill. A negro girl."

When Nathaniel Hood and Mrs. Lydia Browne made over their rights in the mill to Abraham Hobbs I have not been able to ascertain, but they probably simply gave quit claim deeds which were not recorded.

In 1767 Abraham Hobbs purchases of the heirs of Thomas Cummings the farm afterwards known as the Robinson farm. The first recorded deed of this place is given by the heirs of Thomas Howlett to Thomas Cummings May 6, 1763. "In consideration of the sum of two hundred sixty seven pounds six shillings convey etc: a certain tract or parcel of upland and meadow containing about thirty nine acres be the same more or less with ye Buildings there-

on situated in Topsfield afores'd bounded beginning at a Stake with Stones about at ye Northerly Corner, said Stake standing one Rod from the Highway thence southwesterly by Land of sd Thomas Howlett and Ammie Howlett about Sixty Pole to a Stake thence southeasterly by Land of Lieut. Luke Averill and sd Thomas Cummings and by land of John Lamson & William and Stephen Brown thence by land of Pelatiah Cummings Easterly to the River thence Northerly and Northwesterly by ye River and by Land of Abraham Hobbs to the Bounds first mentioned."

The second deed of this place given by the heirs of Thomas Cummings to Abraham Hobbs Apr. 21, 1767, gives the bounds of another piece of land making the whole amount conveyed at this time about fifty four acres.

It is probable that the senior Abraham now took up his abode on the new farm, as his eldest son Abraham was already married. His wife was Elizabeth Cummings and his children Elizabeth, Lydia, Salome, Abraham, Lydia, Hannah, Dolle, Polly and Susanna. Isaac, the second son, was also married to Susanna Smith, May 13, 1766, and his children were Sarah, Elijah, Priscilla, Isaac, Priscilla, Elizabeth, Munson, Samuel, Susanna and Humphrey. They could hardly have all lived in the Perkins house even if the west part had been added, as it perhaps was at about this time.

We find Abraham Hobbs now owning the mill and two farms with doubtless many outlying pieces of land. He was also held in some

esteem in town, as he was selectman in 1771 and '72, and representative to the State legislature in 1779, 1783-85.

In 1782 he begins to deed his property to his sons. The first deed is a deed of the Perkins place and the mills to his son Benjamin. "In consideration of three hundred and thirty eight pounds silver money to me in hand well and truly paid me by Benjamin Hobbs of Topsfield—cordwainer—do convey unto the said Benj. Hobbs all the dwelling-house & one half of all the land and one half of all the buildings on the land hereafter mentioned to be divided equally according to quantity and quality."

Apr. 29, 1785 a companion deed is given to Abraham Hobbs, jun. and Philip Mackenzie: "Convey unto the said Abraham Hobbs & Philip Mackenzie the other half of all the lands, tenements & buildings thereon of what I sold to my son Benjamin Hobbs."

May 4, 1785 a deed was given by Abraham Hobbs to Abraham Hobbs jun. of one half of the farm he had bought of Thomas Cummings.

By a deed of the same date the other half of this farm was conveyed to another son, Jonathan Hobbs.

About this time the sixth son, David Hobbs, comes into full possession of the Averill place. I have been unable to find any deed given to him, and am obliged to base my dates upon tradition. Mr. Austin Averill tells me that his grandmother, the wife of Solomon Averill, was a granddaughter of Joseph Cummings. When she was eighteen years of age she came to live with her grandfather

on the hill. She remained there two or three years and while there came to the raising of the present Averill barn, by David Hobbs. She died in 1851, being 85 years of age. It is rather a roundabout way to get at it, but it fixes the date of the raising of the barn at about 1785 or '86. Probably the house was built first, and therefore these buildings would be something like 110 years old. We presume also that David Hobbs dug the well by the roadside. There is still an old fashioned well sweep here. Modern pipes are convenient but they do not improve the taste of the water. If you wish to prove this, on some hot day in summer when you are weary and thirsty, stop and get a drink of the finest water to be found anywhere in this vicinity.

March 26, 1792 Benjamin Hobbs becomes sole owner of the Perkins place and the mills, receiving at that time a deed from his brother Abraham, of his share in this property, having received five years before a similar deed from Philip Mackenzie. Two years previous, Apr. 20, 1790, Jonathan Hobbs gives a deed of his half of the Robinson place to his brother Abraham, who already owned the other half.

We now have distinctly a Hobbs neighborhood, owned by the three brothers, Abraham, Benjamin and David. Mr. Samuel Mackenzie used to tell me there were so many Hobbs' here that the place was called the City of the Hobbs'. As they passed away their name was dropped, but the term "City" still remains.

Mr. David Hobbs married Rhoda Cummings Apr. 20, 1774. His children were David, Lucy, Nabby,

Rhoda and George. His eldest son David married Sally Perkins 1799, and his children were David, Moses and David Cummings Hobbs. A few months previous to his marriage, Dec. 18, 1798, he purchased the present Bell place of Charles Davis. I have endeavored to trace the ownership of this place as far back as possible, and find that it was in the possession of Nathaniel Low in 1748. The first deed I found was given by Nathaniel Low to Samuel Low and John Bradstreet, June 9, 1753.

Apr. 9, 1726 a deed is given by John Bradstreet to Samuel Low "of the one half of a certain Parcel of Land lying in Topsfield which they formerly bought together of Nathaniel Low of Topsfield."

Samuel Low gives a deed of this homestead to Charles Davis Feb. 26, 1787.

Of the three Hobbs brothers previously referred to, I think I have heard the most about Benjamin. I am told that he used to sit in the door of the mill and compose poetry, an example which I recommend to the present miller. The only scrap of his verse which I have been able to obtain runs as follows:

"Now from the high and lofty hill  
I see the meadows dressed in green,  
The winding river gently flows  
The everlasting hills between."

Nothing very remarkable, to be sure, but it shows that Benjamin had a poetical soul; he also, according to report, was considerably belligerent, and his law suits were numerous. He quarrelled with Jacob Peabody about the mill-dam, and with my grandfather about the boundary line

between their farms. It is related that they disputed about the possession of the willows by the brookside. My grandfather claimed them and cut them down, whereupon the redoubtable Benjamin hauled them away under cover of the darkness. This gave rise to more poetry attributed to a great aunt of mine, Ann Clarke. It is not at all in the style of Anne Bradstreet, but nevertheless may not be without interest to the unregenerate mind :—

“There was a miller I knew once,  
And he took double toll,  
I’d not be in that miller’s place  
For all his weight in gold.  
A poor man cut some willows down  
To make himself a fire,  
The miller hauled the trees away,  
Which made the poor man swear.”

Benjamin Hobbs was thrice married, first to Mary Friend of Wenham, published Nov. 2, 1771; second, to Mrs. Mehitable Searle of Rowley, published May 20, 1804 and third, to Mrs. Mary Jane Fuller of Salem, Feb. 25, 1812. He had only one son, Daniel, born Apr. 25, 1779. It is said that Mr. Hobbs was very proud of this son’s strength, and would put the heaviest grists upon his back in order to show to those who came to the mill how he could lift and what feats he could perform. This in time caused a terrible deformity and in his later years he was unable to walk. The old people say that he went upon all fours and hopped like a toad. He came in once to make a call upon my grandmother, who felt herself in rather an embarrassing position, as she was in the habit of asking her callers to sit

down, but did not know as this one could sit down.

Daniel Hobbs married Hannah Friend Apr. 20, 1802. In a deed dated May 26, 1804, his father Benjamin Hobbs conveys to him “in consideration of two thousand dollars one half of all my real estate with the westerly part of the dwelling house and also the whole of the land that the store stands upon with all the privileges thereto belonging.”

The building here designated as the store was built by Benjamin Hobbs for his son, as on account of his deformity he was unable to do the harder work of the farm and mill. It is said that he used to spring up on the counter like a rat. It has been made into a house within my recollecton and was occupied by Miss Mary Jane Perkins until her death.

Abraham Hobbs gives to Abraham Hobbs, jun., a deed of half the Cummings farm, dated Jan. 14, 1809. About this time the old house, probably the first house upon the place, caught fire from an overturned lamp and was utterly consumed. The present house was soon erected, probably during the same year, making the old Robinson house, as we call it, about 88 years old.

In 1810 I find the first record of the connection of Benjamin Hobbs and John Mackenzie. This is a deed from the former to the latter of “one undivided moiety of all the lands and real estate and personal property belonging to said Benjamin.”

In the same year also “I, Benjamin Hobbs, miller, have constituted, etc., John Mackenzie of Lynn, wheelwright, to be my lawful attorney for

me to receive of and from all and every person, etc., such money, debts, etc., as shall be payable or coming unto me the constituent by any means whatsoever, and I here assign, etc., to said John, all my personal Estate, all outstanding debts and demands and empower him to collect, receive and demand the same for his own use, giving him my full power and authority in the premises."

Still another deed is passed between the same parties, bearing date Feb. 7, 1812. "I Benjamin Hobbs, yeoman, in consideration of two thousand dollars paid by John Mackenzie of said Topsfield, wheelwright, give, grant and convey all my real and personal estate, to wit, one undivided moiety of all my homestead in said Topsfield with the buildings and mills thereon, etc."

Thus closely were the affairs of the Mackenzies and Hobbs intermixed. What trouble afterwards arose between them I do not know. In the course of my investigations I have found two instances where their interests conflicted.

I have already stated that Abraham Hobbs jun. received a deed from his father of half the Cummings farm in 1809. It seems this Abraham inherited the hellicose tendencies of his family. At or about this time John Mackenzie was tending the mill and associated with him was his brother William. He being of small stature, the stalwart Abraham thought him an easy prey and visited the mill one day in John's absence for the purpose of picking a quarrel with him. William defended himself as best he could and drew his antagonist farther and farther out

upon the bridge over the flume. There he managed to push or pull him over and soon both were struggling in the water. Here William had the advantage, as he could swim while Abraham could not, and soon reached the land. By this time John Mackenzie had appeared on the scene. William vowed that Hobbs might drown for all the help he would give him, but John sprang into the water, held up the drowning man's head and assisted him to land. Safely on land Abraham at once bestowed his blows upon the new comer. Here he had found his match in size and strength, but John, unwilling to fight, retreated up the hill, simply keeping his antagonist at bay. At length his Highland blood was roused, and by a well directed blow he felled Abraham to the earth, breaking two of his ribs. Then the numerous Hobbs family, who had been watching the battle from afar, came and bore away the helpless form of their fallen chieftain. Abraham Hobbs afterwards brought suit against the man who had saved his life, but for once law and justice were on the same side and John Mackenzie won the case, but agreed to remit the fine if Hobbs would leave the place. This he did, removing to Nottingham, N. H. After a while he returned and when he appeared again among his old neighbors they slyly whispered "Nottingham." This was exceedingly unpleasant to him but the name clung and thereafter he was always known as "Nottingham" Hobbs. I had heard Mr. Alfred Mackenzie speak of him by this name and supposing it to be his christian name, looked

through the records for "Nottingham" Hobbs in vain. When next I saw Mr. Mackenzie I stated my difficulty and he related to me the preceding story. I find that John Mackenzie afterwards had some trouble with Daniel Hobbs and recovered judgment against him for \$222 20, dated Aug. 1, 1812.

In March, 1813, Daniel Hobbs, Benjamin Hobbs and John Mackenzie give deeds of the mills and the adjacent farm to Moses Newman and Elisha Perkins.

Daniel Hobbs died May 28, 1814. Sept. 30, 1825, the senior Abraham Hobbs died in Topsfield poorhouse, aged about 85.

The following year his son, Abraham "Nottingham" Hobbs, gives a deed of the Robinson place,—the old Cummings farm—to David Hobbs, jun. and John Rea, jun., dated March 21, 1826.

Abraham Hobbs, David Hobbs, jun., and John Rea, jun. give a deed of the same farm to Moses Wildes, dated May 10, 1826.

Moses Wildes sells it to Joseph Adams March 10, 1829, and Joseph Adams to Benj. Robinson Apr. 15, 1842.

The Robinson family staid on the farm till 1874, since which time it has had four different owners.

The last Hobbs who lived upon this place, though I believe he had no ownership therein, was George Hobbs, a son of the first David. He it was who worked in the shop near the old schoolhouse and whose portrait was drawn upon the door by Mrs. Samuel Mackenzie, (see History of Mackenzie Family.) He was a blacksmith by trade and was always

called by the old people "Master George." His work was rude and bungling, yet strong and enduring. Often have I been told when viewing some household utensil with childish curiosity, "Oh, Master George made that." We have a mortar which at one time had an idea of splitting in two. The services of "Master George" were thereupon called in, and an iron hoop was placed around it big enough and strong enough to belt in a man-of-war, fastened also with a cunning device which would have been impossible to a person of ordinary mind. I think that mortar will outlast the centuries.

The father of "Master George," Mr. David, died at the present Averill place, Feb. 25, 1830. During his last years he was blind, a state of things, I am told, largely caused by undue indulgence in New England rum. His physician warned him that if he persisted in his course he would lose the use of his eyes. "Then farewell eyes" promptly responded the patient. And so he lived and died happy in the possession of that which in his view gave value to life.

The estate was sold by his second wife and widow Rebecca Card to Cyrus Averill, March 30, 1826. She then went to live with her stepson, David Hobbs, at the present Bell place, where she died Oct. 1, 1851 at the great age of 96 years.

This place was the last place owned by the Hobbs in our vicinity. There have been two houses on this farm, probably built by the two brothers Nathaniel and Samuel Low, when they owned the estate together, that is, it seems so from the deeds. The

cellar of one of these houses may still be seen, while the remaining house has the appearance of being very old. Like the Perkins' house it has had additions at different times, one part being made of one kind of wood, another part of a different kind and so on. Nathaniel Low owned here in 1747; very likely the beginning was made at that time, perhaps before.

I am told that interesting relics of the Hobbs family are still to be found here, various ancient articles, with tools and implements large enough for the use of giants.

And they do say that this last Hobbs house is haunted. It is a fact that a family left the house on account of the unexplainable noises heard therein. Doors opened noiselessly, mysterious footsteps were heard crossing some of the rooms. At times a fearful clangor broke out in the old blacksmith shop and all the spinning wheels were set a-whirring. To be sure, the present owner

making light of these things, skeptically states that the doors in old houses will rattle and get out of order and even speaks of rats in connection with the mysterious noises. But we all know there are some people who never believe anything. I confess to a love for the marvellous. "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

The mill and the accompanying estate passed entirely into the hands of the Perkins family in 1826. Jacob Perkins had previously bought his brother Elisha's part. This deed is dated March 15, 1823.

"Homestead, dwelling house, barn, grist mill, carding mill and other buildings therein, including all the carding and other machinery in and pertaining to said mills."

The homestead still remains in the family. The mill was retained by them till 1878, when it passed into the hands of its present owner, Mr. Wellington Donaldson.



## **"The Treason of Lieut. John Gould."**

**By REV. FRANCIS A. POOLE.**

The accession of James II to the throne of England boded no good to the colonists of Massachusetts Bay. At the beginning of his reign they were an independent people living under a representative government, levying their own taxes, conducting their own courts of justice, coining their own money. At the close of the third year of his reign they were none the less independent in spirit but the privileges of independence had been taken away. Legislation and taxation had become the prerogatives of Edmund Andros, the Governor of New England; the courts of justice were under his influence; even the process of "countenancing and encouraging the Church of England" was well under way and Episcopal services were held every Sunday in the Old South Meeting-house at Boston.

So decided a change in their condition was naturally very depressing to the colonists and the smouldering fires of their indignation threatened at any time to become a blaze. But the oppression was so shrewdly conducted that the opportunity for concerted action was long in presenting itself.

Only gradually were changes in the judiciary and in the system of taxation consummated, and then under the cover of professed advantage to the citizens. Remonstrance only resulted in making the burdens heavier and for the most part the people seemed to realize that "dis-

cretion was the better part of valor."

But the spirit of liberty taught by their religion and nourished by their past privileges was not easily restrained. Passive submission was impossible to some high-strung natures. It was inevitable that in isolated instances at least the suppressed indignation would find an utterance, and so it was in fact. In Essex county especially the independent spirit was too strong to keep the silence. And while it is said that several towns in the State refused to conform to a certain odious measure, it is said that in Essex county every town but three joined in this refusal. In Ipswich the opposition to the measure was particularly strenuous and the leaders in the opposition, six in number, were arrested and heavily fined.

But the beginning of the attempt to coerce Massachusetts was even prior to the coming of Andros, and at the very outset the ire of the independent Puritan was aroused. Among the first to express his indignation at the new order of affairs was a respected citizen of the town of Topsfield, Lieut. John Gould.

The abrogation of the charter of Massachusetts was the act of Charles II, but before any arrangements had been made for the government of the colony his death had suddenly occurred. There were too many affairs at home engaging the attention of his successor for him to consider the situation across the Atlan-

tic and accordingly he directed that for the present all the officials in the colonies should exercise their functions as heretofore. As a provisional expedient, therefore, the government of Massachusetts Bay was conducted according to the old charter, while the people awaited the pleasure of the King. They were not left long in doubt as to the nature of his policy. By the influence of Edward Randolph a temporary government was established with Joseph Dudley as President, William Stoughton as Deputy President and Edward Randolph himself as Secretary. "Their functions were judicial and executive. They had no legislative authority." Before the General Court of Massachusetts Bay, which however the officers of the new government refused to recognize in an official capacity, Dudley and Randolph laid their commissions. On the third day following, but under protest, the old government was dissolved, the General Court having first passed by a unanimous vote a reply to the terms of his Majesty's commission.

The first criticism that they made was this: "We find that there is no certain determinate rule for your administration of justice, and that which is, seems too arbitrary." This was upon May 20, 1686. And as we may well believe, the knowledge of what had taken place furnished material for discussion in every village of the colony. Some of the weaker men were doubtless resolved already to support the new order. The stronger ones were indignant against it, and none more so than Lieut. John Gould of Topsfield. He seems

to have had special feeling against the court regulations referred to above, and between May 23d and May 30th was heard to say: "That if the county was of his mind, they would keep Salem Court with the former magistrates, and if the county would go the rounds, he would make the first, and would go and keep Salem court and he would have his company down to do it." The events of a month seem not to have cooled the ardor of his resentment, for on or about the 11th day of July he broke out again with this declaration: "That he was under another Government and had sworn to another Government, and did not know this Government." Heroic John Gould! But his liberty of speech cost him dearly. There were those who heard his words of noble indiscretion and upon the representations of Isaac Cummings, John Wild and John How he was charged with treason. A warrant was issued for his arrest and he was committed to jail in Boston. This was upon the 5th of August, 1686. A copy of the original warrant is here appended:

BOSTON, Sc.

*To the Keeper of his Majesty's  
Jail in Boston.*

The President of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England, with the Deputy President and others of his Majesty's Council assembled, the 7th day of August 1686, having received information upon the oaths of Isaac Cummings, John Wild, and John How, of several treasonable and seditious words, spoken by John Gould of Topsfield,

against our Sovereign Lord the King, &c. These are therefore, in his majesty's name, to require you to take into your Custody the body of the said John Gould, and him safely keep until he shall be delivered in due course of Law, and for doing this shall be your warrant, given at the Council House in Boston, the said 5th day of August, Anno Dom. 1686. Anno que R. R. Jacobi Dei Gratia Angliae &c.—secundi.

Vera Copia. ED RANDOLPH.  
Sec.

He appears to have been suffering from some physical ailment and therefore sent a petition to the President and Council of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England, in consequence of which it was ordered: "That the Prison-keeper do permit the said John Gould to have the benefit of the Prison yard to walk in during his sickness (the keeper taking care the said Gould make not an escape) till further order."

Council House Boston, Aug. 12, 1686.  
(signed)

Ed. Randolph, Sec'ry.

On August 19 he was brought to trial before a special session of the Court held in Boston. He was found guilty of the charge of treason and sent to prison.

A copy of the original document in which under oath John Wild, John How, Isaac Cummings & Ephraim How witness against John Gould is herewith inserted.

#### CASE OF JOHN GOULD CHARGED WITH TREASON.

NEW ENGLAND, Sc.

#### *Rex Contra Gould in Sessione Speciali, 19th Aug. 1686.*

The Jurors for our Sovereign Lord, the King, do upon their oaths present, that John Gould, sen., otherwise called Lieutenant Gould of Topsfield, in the County of Essex, husbandman, by force and arms, that is to say, between the 23d and 30th of May, in the second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, &c., being evilly affected against our most sacred Lord the King aforesaid, his supreme and natural Lord, and devising with all his might, and intending to disturb the peace and common tranquillity of this his Majesty's Territory and Domain of New England, as the same is now settled by his Majesty's Royal Commission under his great seal of England, and the introducing again of the late Government dissolved by law, at a Riotous Muster of armed men gathered together by him, the aforesaid John Gould as their pretended officer, at Topsfield aforesaid, in the County aforesaid, in the year aforesaid, he the said John Gould as aforesaid, then and there being, did against the duty of his Allegiance, and in terror of his Majesty's liege People, maliciously, wickedly, seditiously, treasonably, and advisedly, speak and utter these malicious, treasonable, and seditious speeches following, viz: If the Country was of his mind, they would keep Salem Court with the former Magistrates, and if the Country would go the Rounds, he would make the first, and would go and keep Salem Court, and he would have his Company down to do it. And, further, he, the said John Gould as aforesaid, on

or about the 11th day of July, at Topsfield aforesaid, in the County aforesaid, in the year aforesaid, maliciously, advisedly and treasonably, did say and utter these malicious, treasonable and seditious words, following. viz: That he was under another Government and had sworn to another Government, and did not know this Government, and this in manifest contempt of his Majesty's laws and Government here in New England, to the will and pernicious example of all others in the like case offending, and against the peace of our said Sovereign Lord the King, his Crown and dignity.

John Wild.  
John Howe,  
Isaac Cummings,  
Ephraim Howe,

Witnesses.

The punishment thus meted out to him was hard to bear. His family, consisting of wife and eight children, was deprived of the means of support and he therefore sends a special petition "to the honorable President and Council of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England." He promises allegiance to the new government, states that he is "heartily sorry for the idle words he uttered" and asks "that upon his payment of twenty pounds, fees of Court, and giving sufficient security for his good behavior he may be freed from his imprisonment." The total amount of the bill of costs was £10.01.00, itemized as follows:

*Rex versus Gould.* A bill of costs at a special court of Oyer and Terminer, holden in Boston, for his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England.

	<i>Aug. 19th 1686.</i>
The Judge's fee,	£1.00.00
Drawing the Indictment,	0.02.06
Filing the Indictment,	0.01.00
Taking 4 Recognizances in Court,	0.08.00
Filing the same,	0.01.00
For the <i>venire facias</i> to the Justice and Marshall,	0.02.00
For reading the Evidences, No. 4,	0.01.00
For taking and entering the verdicts.	0.02.00
For entering the Judgement,	0.02.00
For the Discharge,	0.02.00
The Attorney General's fee, for pleading on the indictment,	1.10.00
Ipswich Court Charges,	0.17.06
Charges of witnesses at Boston.	2.12.00
Paid in Court to 4 persons.	1.00.00
Marshall Green's Journey,	2.00.00
	—
	£10.01.00

The petition of John Gould was as follows.

*To the honorable, the President and Council of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England*

The humble petition of John Gould humbly sheweth.

That your petitioner shall ever pray for your Honours' prosperity, as in duty bound, for your favorable answer to his late petition; which, if he were able, he would readily embrace without further troubling your honours; but his fortune being very inconsiderable and that incumbered; and being uncapable to get a penny toward the support of his wife and eight children. He, therefore, most humbly prays, that your honours

will be pleased to take his deplorable condition into further consideration, (he being heartily sorry for the idle words he uttered) that, on his payment of twenty pounds, fees of Court, and giving sufficient security for his good behaviour, he may be freed from his imprisonment. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, etc.

JOHN GOULD.

His petition was granted and on Aug. 25 he was released from confinement. There is apparently some confusion regarding the terms upon which his release was secured. For there seem to be two documents in which his discharge is ordered. In one of these it is required that he pay the sum of twenty pounds beside prison fees and fees of prosecution and furnish bond for his good behavior.

In the other the amount additional to the charges of prosecution is fixed at fifty pounnds instead of twenty and it is stated that on this being paid the remainder of his fine will be respited. Both documents are signed by Ed. Randolph, Sec'y.

Ordered, that upon the petitioners payment of the sum of twenty pounds to the Treasurer and Prison fees and fees of Prosecution, that he be discharged his imprisonment upon giving bond for his good behaviour.

ED. RANDOLPH, *Secretary.*

*Aug. 15th. 1686.*

*By the President and Council of his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England.*

Upon reading the petition of John Gould, and considering the poverty of his family it is ordered,

That upon the payment of Fifty Pounds in Money, and charges of Prosecution. the remainder of his fine be respited and he be released of his imprisonment, he giving bonds for his good behaviour, according to order of Court.

ED. RANDOLPH, *Secretary.*

*Aug. 25th, 1686.*

As security for his future good behavior Lieut. Gould bound himself in the sum of 100 pounds, a copy of which bond is inserted herewith.

Know all men by these presents, that I, John Gould, senior, otherwise called Lieutenant Gould of Topsfield, in the county of Essex (in his Majesty's Territory and Dominion of New England.) husbandman, am holden and firmly bound unto the most Illustrious Prince, James II. of England, etc., King etc., his heirs, or lawful Attorney in the sum of one hundred pounds, to the which payment, well and truly to be made, I bind myself firmly by these presents, sealed with my seal, dated the twenty-fifth day of September. in the 2d year of the reign of our said Sovereign Lord, James II. of England, etc., and in the year of our Lord, one thousand six hundred eighty six. The condition of this obligation is such, that if the above bounden John Gould senior, do well and truly keep the peace of our Sovereign Lord, the King aforesaid, and shall also be of good behavior towards our said Lord, the King, and all his liege people, especially to the inhabitants of Topsfield, aforesaid, then this recognizance to be void and of none effect, or otherwise to be and remain in full force, power and virtue.

JOHN GOULD, *Senior.*



Signed, sealed and delivered to the surmised, that "if How is a worthy use of our said Sovereign Lord, the King, in the presence of Benjamin Bullivant.

The readiness with which the gallant lieutenant swore devotion to the King's government, now that adversity had followed his resistance, is at first surprising, but in the absence of any wide spread disposition to rebel against the authority of the King, it may have seemed useless that he should become a martyr, and in praying for release upon the terms stated, he did but follow the example of the majority, who, much as they disliked to do so, realized that submission was for the present the wisest course.

He seems to have suffered nothing in the respect of his fellow citizens, for when by the accession of William and Mary to the throne of England, the Andros administration came to an end, John Gould was re-elected to his old office as selectman of the town, "and in 1690, and afterwards, he was chosen the deputy of Topsfield to the General Court." It seems also from the record of a church meeting held in the house of Rev. Joseph Capen, June 13, 1692, that the church in Topsfield approved his course and was displeased at the conduct of John How and others.

In consequence of John How's testimony against Gould at the time of his trial, a coldness had sprung up and continued to exist between them. Both were members of the church, but Gould concluded, as is

why, then I am not such a member, and I will just stay away." Accordingly for a considerable time he remained away from the communion service. It was in the endeavor to bring about more cordial relations between the two men that this meeting of the church was called. The church expressed its disapproval of the conduct of those who had testified against Gould, and How acknowledged that he was heartily sorry for his part in that affair.

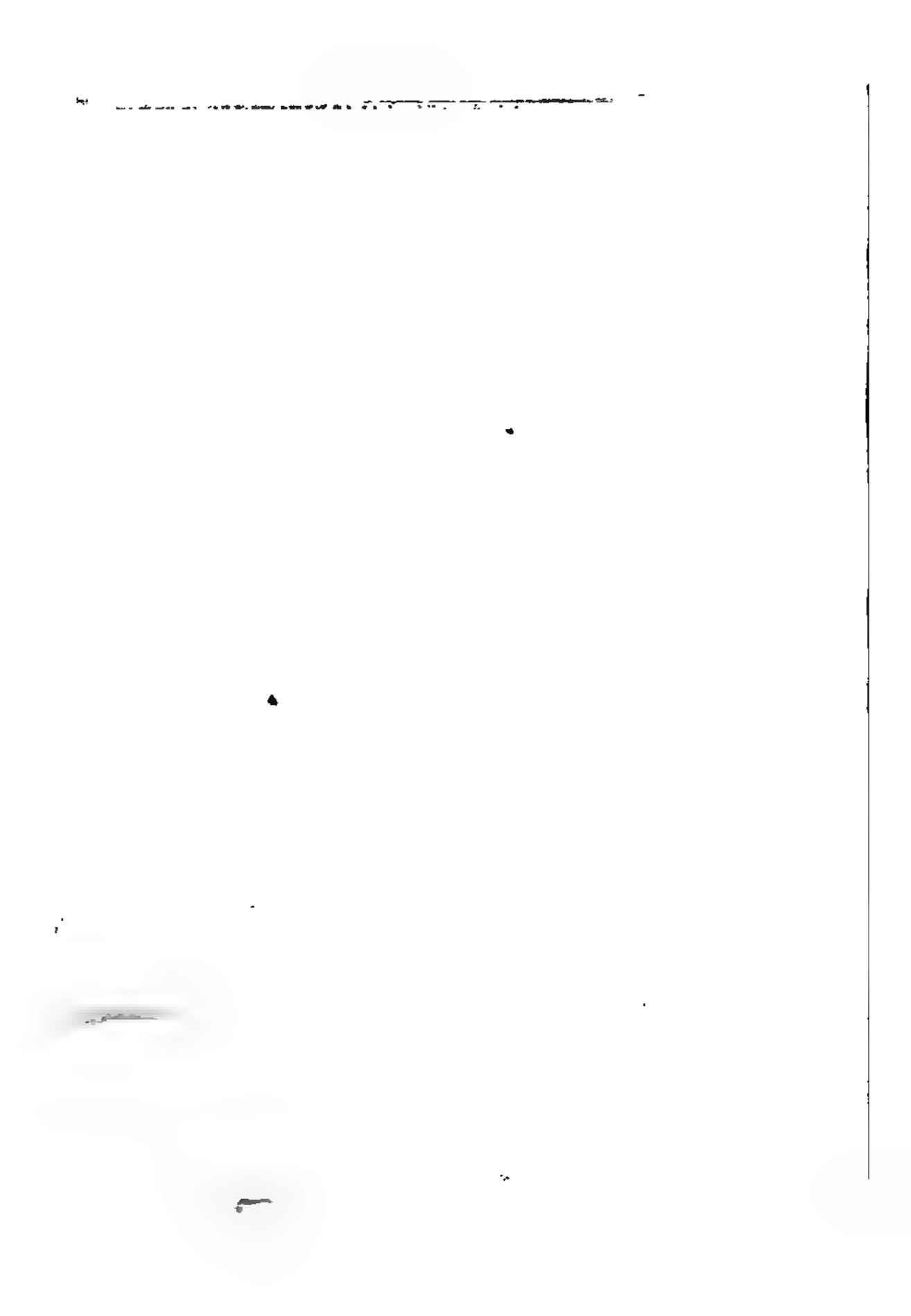
The church also disapproved of Gould's neglect of the table of the Lord and he expressed contrition. The two men then shook hands in token of mutual forgiveness, each no doubt made happier by this manly course, while the blessing of the peace maker was the portion of the church.

Such in brief is the story of the treason of John Gould. Treason against tyranny whose other name is devotion to justice and to freedom!

And such is one of the many instances by which from time to time the spirit of our sturdy forefathers found expression, prophetic always of that memorable day to which they looked forward, on which we look back, that day of Independence, when it was declared and soon in bloody conflict proven, "that these united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states."



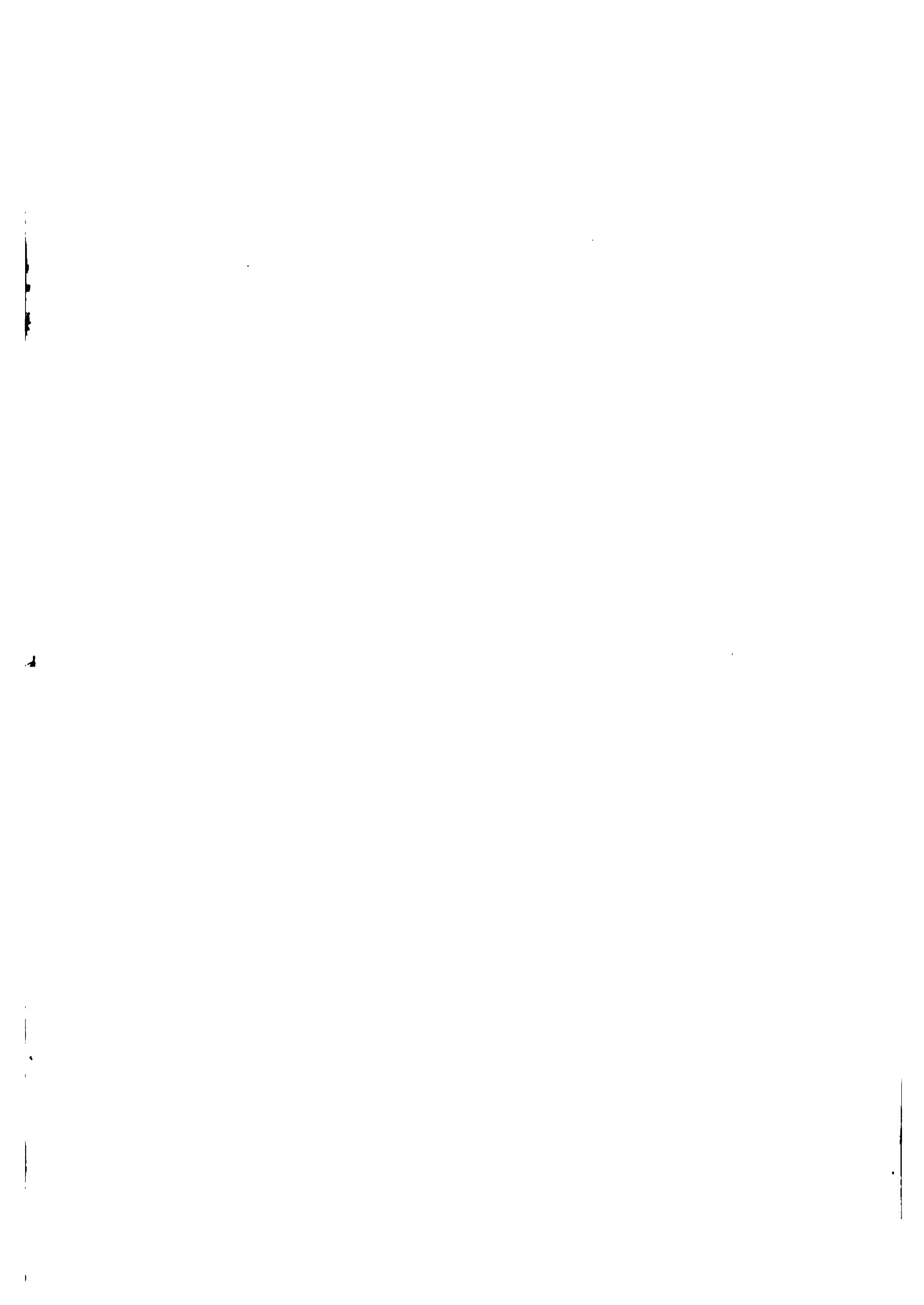




THE  
HISTORICAL  
COLLECTIONS  
OF THE  
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

CONTENTS  
Produced for the Society  
in 1900







DR. ROYAL A. MERRIAM.



**GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,**  
*Editor.*

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## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

In presenting to the society my fourth annual report, I have pleasure in being able to chronicle a continued increase in the membership, and a growing prestige among kindred societies scattered about the county, and in fact the state and nation. The year just closed has added thirty-seven members to our rolls—members who reside in thirteen different states.

We have lost two members by death, Mrs. Eunice Perley of East Boxford, and Mrs. Mary A. Colburn of Wellesley Hills, while four have resigned their affiliation.

Eight meetings of the society have been held during the past year and papers have been read by Sidney Perley, Esq., of Salem, Miss Marietta Clark, Benj. J. Balch, Mrs. George Warren Towne, the president and your secretary.

The society now has a total active membership of 271, resident in twenty different states. Every New England state pays its tribute. We have three members on the Pacific coast and one in the southern state of Alabama. An effort will be made during the coming year to largely increase our rolls and proportionately our income.

One event during the past twelve months comes to the fore with much prominence—the highly successful field meeting held on July 27th, the Essex Institute of Salem, uniting with us in extending a cordial invitation to the thirteen Historical societies in the county, to be represented at the gathering, and every one without exception sent its delegation, large or small. Methuen on the extreme northwest and Lynn on the southeast sent parties of enthusiastic antiquarians. A stranger within our gates, a Westerner visiting New England's shrines for the first time, left "Cold Roast

"Beef Boston," or as we affectionately term it, Nahant, at the seasonable hour of five o'clock in the morning, and after spending the day in our midst told the reporter of a great metropolitan newspaper, that he had known the ideal New England country village only by what he had read and seen in picture, but at first glance he recognized in Topsfield a most delightful type. He had travelled the wide world over and never seen any spot more picturesquely rural than this same Topsfield of ours. At the public exercises in the afternoon the Town Hall was filled by an interested audience that heard eloquent speakers of national reputation. The Hon. Robert S. Rantoul, president of the Essex Institute; Prof. Edward S. Morse, administrative head of the Peabody Academy of Science; Gen. Francis H. Appleton of the Governor's staff; Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, ex-president of Wellesley College and an educator of national reputation; Rev. D. O. Mcars of Albany, N. Y., the orator; Hon. Alden P. White of Salem; John W. Hutchinson, the famous singer of emancipation and other speakers of almost equal note, contributed to the unqualified success of an occasion that ever will remain a marked day in the history of our society. To unite the historical societies of the county at one common field meeting was something unknown in county annals. It remained for the Topsfield Historical Society to achieve this event and years to come will feel the good fellowship and influence of that July day.

But this society must not rest upon its oars and drift with the tide, for in the rapidly approaching year, 1900, must be celebrated with all pomp and honor possible, the 250th anniversary of our birth as a town, the 28th in order on the list of settlements incorporated in the Massachusetts Bay colony.

We should all take a wholesome pride in our honorable record as a town and make every effort to crown the anniversary of our natal day with a round of becoming festivities. It is perhaps none too soon to discuss at the annual town meeting the question of "ways and means," and even the election of a committee having power to outline the exercises of the day and submit estimates of cost at a future meeting. He who goes forewarned goes armed in all points.

A consideration of the matter in ample season may prevent mistakes of both omission and commission.

One other matter I would keep ever before your eyes—the eventual ownership by the society of a permanent home, a resting place in some ancient building, where our collection of historical objects can be housed and feel a natural growth, and where associations with the shadowy past may sharpen our appetites for things historical.

Such a movement must be made in the not distant future. It only needs the sinewy arm to guide the plow, for necessary funds will be forthcoming with the successful launching of the project.

Shall we not unite in bringing the question to a successful solution before the dawn of our anniversary year, the year when objects of historical interest will be most in repute?

Let a continuation of the good fellowship and earnest work of the past be hoped for in the future. Let our society be the spot where all creeds and stations can meet upon common ground, bound by a common tie of veneration,—a research into the storied past.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

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Topsfield, Jan. 2, 1899.

The treasurer would submit the following report of receipts and expenditures for the year ending Jan. 2, 1899.

### RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1898,	\$77.90
Historical Collections sold,	2.50
Binding volumes,	1.75
Annual dues,	97.50
	<hr/>
	\$179.65

### PAYMENTS.

Printing,	\$42.84
Engraving,	1.40
Binding,	11.44
Paper stock,	10.68
Postage, express, etc.	22.51
Field day expenses,	21.89
	<hr/>
	\$110.76
Balance on hand Jan. 2, 1899,	<hr/> <hr/> \$68.89

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

## NECROLOGY.

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MARY A. (BLANCHARD) COLBURN was born in Shrewsbury, Vermont, June 28, 1824, and died at her younger son's home in Wellesley Hills, Mass., Dec. 26, 1897. She was the daughter of Stephen and Rebecca (Lake) Blanchard. On the twenty-fifth of November, 1846, she was married in Winchendon, Mass., to John Colburn, of Leominster. He died in Wellesley Hills, Dec. 15, 1886. Both are buried in the family lot at Leominster, Mass.

Four children were born to them; the eldest died in infancy; John Henry, who married Helen T. Bliss of New Bedford and lives in Boston; Mary Eleanor, who married Thomas Guthrie. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and died in Boston, March 12, 1897; Frank Martin, who married Ida E. Childs of Roxbury. She died Nov. 26, 1894.

Mrs. Colburn joined the Topsfield Historical Society in 1895. She was until within a few weeks of her death, an active, energetic woman, and maintained a lively interest in current events at large, as well as in the minute details of her daily life, the care of her son's motherless children, and the domestic duties which she personally supervised. She was the true type of a New England woman of the old school.

Her unselfish life and beautiful character will be a precious memory to a large circle of friends, and to the children and grandchildren who survive her.

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EUNICE PERLEY, died at Boxford Sept 4, 1898, at the age of seventy-three. She was daughter of Thomas and Lydia (Guilford) Peabody, and was born in Topsfield Nov. 19, 1824. She married Humphrey Perley of Ipswich Sept. 16, 1844; and lived in Topsfield and Boxford. Her life was uneventful, and was wholly devoted to her family. Three sons, Elbridge Perley and Humphrey Perley, Jr., both of Boxford, and Sidney Perley of Salem, and one daughter, Mrs. Emma J. Chase of North Andover were born of this union.

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HISTORY  
OF  
THE TOPSFIELD ACADEMY  
BY  
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THE LITERARY EXERCISES AT THE REUNION OF  
THE TEACHERS AND STUDENTS OF THE  
ACADEMY, HELD AUG. 12, 1897.

EDITED BY  
GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.



THE TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.

## HISTORY OF THE TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.

1828-1860.

### INTRODUCTION.

To the Topsfield Historical Society was due the inception of the reunion of the teachers and students of the old Topsfield Academy, but to the enthusiastic cooperation of the students of "auld lang syne," was largely due, the instant success of the reunion, held on an August day, when Nature's brightest smiles strove to make the day one of dearest memory.

The morning trains brought many from a distance, and every winding road paid its tribute as the noon hour drew near. Lunch was served in the Town Hall, by resident students of the Academy, and an informal reception followed, with many happy renewals of old acquaintance; men and women who had not seen each other for fifty years or more, recalled the bygone days, and many were the effecting scenes and incidents. As the hour for the literary exercises drew near, a large number of students grouped themselves about the entrance to the Hall, and were photographed, in memory of the day. The Hall presented a beautiful picture, as flowers were abundantly used in decoration, the speakers platform being completely hidden by masses of ferns, sweet peas, and other flowers, and when the chairman, Jefferson K. Cole, of Peabody, called the assemblage to order, he faced an audience that taxed its seating capacity. Nearly three hundred of those present attended the old Academy at some time in its history. Rev. Alfred Noon, of Boston, offered prayer, and was followed by Mr. Cole, who delivered an address of welcome, in which he recalled many scenes and incidents of Academy

days. Prof. John W. Perkins, of Salem, delivered the oration. His topic was the personal and local side of education. This address was replete with timely thoughts, and was frequently applauded. Prof. George Conant, of Pasadena, California, who was principal of the Academy in 1852, read an original poem. This was followed by the ode, written by Eugene Tappan, Esq., of Boston. Mr. Nathan Dane Dodge, of Newburyport, conducted the singing. Mr. M. V. B. Perley, of Ipswich, then delivered the historical address, an able record of the glories of the old Academy, that was greatly appreciated. A reminiscent address, by Rev. George L. Gleason, of Haverhill, carried memory back to "the days that used to be." Brief addresses followed from Hon. Israel W. Andrews, of Danvers; Prof. George Conant, who asked those present who were instructed by him, in 1852, to rise in their seats, and the surprising number, twenty-eight, responded. Rev. Alfred Noon, John W. Porter, Esq., of Danvers, and Eugene Tappan, Esq., spoke briefly. The exercises concluded by singing a hymn to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne," Rev. Francis A. Poole, pastor of the Congregational Church, of Topsfield, pronouncing the benediction. Seated on the platform, with the speakers, was Deacon John J. Gould, of Ipswich, who attended the Academy in 1830.

The following committee, Justin Allen, M. D., Charles J. Peabody, Benjamin J. Balch, Joseph B. Poor, Henry W. Lake, Albert M. Dodge, Mrs. Sarah K. (Leach) Woodbury, Mrs. Ellen A. (Hood) Welch, Mrs. Catharine (Gould) Perkins, and George Francis Dow, members of the Topsfield Historical Society, or resident students of the Academy, arranged and carried to a successful conclusion the first, and probably the last, reunion of the teachers and scholars of the Topsfield Academy.

## CHAPTER I.

### THE TOWN OF TOPSFIELD AND THE INCORPORATORS OF THE ACADEMY.

Every mortal has his birth, his life, and his death, or as we are taught, his change of life, and after that the judgment; so, many human institutions, particularly those of mental and moral design, have their birth and life, and change in the sphere and manner of their activity, and after that a judgment.

Topsfield Academy is a case in point; she has pursued the common path, as if impelled by a common trolley. The day of her birth was one of joy throughout the grand old borough; her life was a gem, every facet of which reflected its own peculiar attractive color and brilliancy and beauty: her changed activity now lives hidden in a thousand measures of meal, and we, today, filial in our love and devotion, with breadth of view, cognizant of results, and just in our estimate (as she ever taught us), review her life and accord to her her proper meed of praise.

The birth of this institution was during an academical period. The spirit of education was rife, the time was opportune. From 1628 at Salem, almost to 1828 at Topsfield, when this Academy was instituted; from 1634 at Ipswich, of which town Topsfield was, eighteen years, a part; from 1650, the date of Topsfield's incorporation; from King Philip of Mt Hope to King George III of England, even to 1815, when closed the war that wrung from the mother country the last prerogatives of our nationality, the history of this people would be a well-written history of the wars. Indeed, it was the first opportunity, when the people, free in their nationality, big with the possibilities of free institutions, and persuaded of the value of moral culture and

practical learning as a corner-stone of an enduring republic, could hopefully, earnestly and practically, pursue and cultivate the arts of peace.

At this time the spirit of education was rife—it brooded with propitious wing over the entire country. Time fails me to tell you of the Gideons, the Davids, and the Samuels, who, through an inspiring faith, wrought righteousness, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, and turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Many of these men were college-bred; they were of high social culture, and they realized, as we did not, and as we cannot even now, the sentiment of the legend raised for years over the rostrum of the Academy: "*Knowledge is Power.*" They instituted public and private schools as soon as there were pupils to attend them. From that early day, during all the trying vicissitudes of ancestral life, the week-day when the school door was not open to the inquiring student has no date. Through all those years, school privileges abounded, as opportunities were possible, and means could be afforded. The public school was eminently practical, and the private school was no less practical in meeting a higher demand. There was no conflict, each rejoiced in the growth of the other, and each maintained her relative ratio of numbers. Gov. Dummer early scented the sweet aroma of this century plant, and endowed his academy in 1763; Phillips followed at Andover in 1780. A radical change in the common system was inaugurated about 1800, towns being divided into school districts, prudential committees chosen, and school work and government made comparatively definite and positive. From 1806 to 1820, Mr. Felt, the historian, counted no less than seventy-five advertisements of private schools.

At the time of the institution of this Academy, this century plant, so cherished and cultivated by our ancestors, and so hopeful in its fruition, was about to spread its broad petals and distill upon the balmy air the richness of its treasured sweetness. The common school, so recently established on its new vantage ground, was now to be supplemented by a permanent higher grade of moral and educational training within the means of the common people, and a permanent

connecting-link between the common school and the college was to be established.

Nine academies in our immediate vicinity were instituted in thirteen years. "The Trustees of Merrimack Academy" at Groveland were incorporated Feb. 7, 1822; "The Visitors of the Theological Institution in Phillips Academy in Andover," Jan. 17, 1824; "The Proprietors of Haverhill Academy," Jan. 28, 1828; "The Proprietors of Ipswich Academy," Feb. 28, 1828; "The Proprietors of Topsfield Academy," June 12, 1828; "The Trustees of Abbot Female Academy," Andover, Feb. 26, 1829; "The Proprietors of Boxford Academy," March 4, 1831; "Lynn Academy in the Town of Lynn," March 13, 1832; "Beverly Academy," Feb. 7, 1835.

Topsfield was part and parcel of that ancestral avalanche of educational force. She had her Winthrop who left his name to a commanding elevation in the northern part of the town, and who, in 1642, sold for £250, 300 acres of land "situate in the hamlett, village or place called Toppesfeild\* in the parish of Ipswich"; she had her Bradstreets, Perkins, and Peabodys; her Cleavlands, Merriams, and Cummings; her Goulds, Balches, and Howletts; her Hoods, Townes, and Averills; her Clarks, Lamsons, and Kimballs; a host of worthies. She appreciated the golden opportunity and rejoiced, as an Elisha, in the cast mantle of the fathers.

But besides these common inheritances, she had two others peculiarly her own. She was centrally located and "beautiful for situation."

The Newburyport Turnpike had contributed to the former of these for twenty-five years, telling daily the news and business of cities south and north. The crack of the coachman's whip and the chuck of heavy-laden dray-wheels had been heard upon the north-west and west, for many years.

\*This is the earliest known record of the name as applied to this territory. The phrase here quoted is found in a deed, dated March 20, 1642, and given by John Winthrop, Gent., of New England, then residing in London, England, to Edward Parks, citizen and merchant-taylor of London, England. The deed conveyed land whose south-east bound was six feet from the spring in the present northern boundary of Topsfield, whose north-west was near the old gate leading to the residence of the late Emerson Howe; whose north-east was probably just east of the Corp. John Foster estate.

Three stages passed daily between Boston, Salem and Newburyport, and one between Salem and Haverhill, and the mails were each day opened. This village was in daily touch with every part of the county. Here was the central rendezvous of horses. Here were brought merchandise and passengers, and political and literary conventions. Here convened the famous *Essex Junto*, Oct. 6, 1808, whose voice national influence, waked the echoes of the *gilded dome* and vibrated along the corridors of the White House; here followed great anti-junto, Feb. 20, 1809; here the Essex County Agricultural Society held its first exhibit, Oct. 5, 1820; was the great Lyceum convention, Dec. 30, 1829, backed by such men as Edward Everett, Daniel Webster, and Horatio Mann; here the Essex County Natural History Society was organized, April 16, 1834; and here also the Essex County Teachers' Association had its birth. The central location was an advantage of expanding value, and demanded vigorous exertions to be further utilized.

[Of the Lyceum convention, Hon. Daniel Appleton wrote: It was "a large concourse of gentlemen of influence and enlightenment ever to have witnessed a more interesting and enlightened assembly. Very animated, earnest, protracted debates took place. By a full but close vote, the following resolutions were adopted:—Resolved, that it is desirable to establish a general lyceum for Essex County, that previous to such formation, local lyceums should be established in the several towns—that a committee be appointed by this meeting to prepare a circular letter addressed to suitable persons in each town in the county, calling a general meeting to adopt a constitution—to draw up a form of constitution. Mr. Vose was placed on the committee, and the meeting for adopting a constitution was at Ipswich Hotel, at 10 o'clock, on March 17, 1830. The object of the lyceum was "the improvement of its members in useful knowledge and the advancement of popular education, by reading, conversation, discussions, illustrating the sciences, or other exercises, which are thought expedient; and as it is found convenient to procure a cabinet consisting of books, apparatus facilitating the sciences, plants, minerals, and other natural objects."]

artificial productions." The title used by the committee was *Confederation, or Convention, of Lyceums.* Topsfield had another meeting Jan. 18, 1830.—*Essex Hist. Coll., vol. 9, part 2, p. 50, and vol. 18, p. 293.*]

Her "beauty for situation" had been long recognized; her rural quiet and social amenities long attested; her village homes and farm villas indicated persistent diligence, a learned intelligence and stored wealth; the lake and river were an added charm to her landscape, and invited to aquatic sports; her hills afforded a great variety and extent of scenic beauty of land and ocean. Not, however, that she so far excelled her sisters; but that these natural gifts, each enhancing the value of the other, made her the first choice of towns for academic life.

Topsfield was a pioneer in establishing the new system of schools. "Miss Floyd's Academy" was located here as early as 1819\*. Preceding this or succeeding it, or both and the while, was Mrs. A. P. Curtis and Lydia R. Ward's Academy. Mrs. Curtis' school is mentioned as late as 1827. The sessions of Miss Floyd's Academy were held at Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland's house, and it may be that a knowledge of her success placed the Doctor among the foremost advocates of a public academy.

The original document, the initial formal action, in relation to this school, reads as follows:—

"Our country has already risen to a high rank in civilization and mental culture; and the present period is distinguished for the rapid improvement in almost every useful art

\*We have been shown, by Mrs. N. Rawson Underhill, of Ipswich, a manuscript book whose title page reads thus:—"Miscellaneous Exercises on Composition by Lucy Martin of Salem, at Miss Curtis and Miss Floyd's school, Salem, June 12, 1816." The latest date in the book is July 18, 1819.

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### Abigail Floyd.

Informs her friends and the public, that she will open a SCHOOL on the first Monday in April, in the chamber over Mr. Stearns' store, Essex Street, formerly occupied by Mr. Blydon for that purpose, where she will teach Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Rhetoric, Composition and Needle-Work —Also an intermediate School from 11 to 1 o'clock.—*Salem Gazette, Mar. 17, 1809.*

and science. We the undersigned fully believing that the town of Topsfield is very favorably located for an *Academy*, and desirous to keep pace with the country, while we secure to ourselves and posterity the means of acquiring useful knowledge, *agree* to pay the sum or sums annexed to our respective names, for the purpose of erecting a building or buildings suitable for an academy in said town, the site to be hereafter selected by the promoters of the aforesaid object and whoever may have the munificence to endow the institution, it is our most cordial wish, and design, that it shall bear *His name forever*, with the privilege of appointing, while living, all the Trustees, of which body He himself shall be the President.

Topsfield, May 8 day 1827.

Jeremiah Stone	\$50	pd.	\$25
Thomas Emerson	100		
Nathl. Perley	25		
Frederick Perley	25		
Joel Lake	20		
Jerry White	10		
Corneleus Bradstreet	50		paid
Edward Hood	25		
Isaac Killam	50		
Moses Wright	20		
John Sawyer	20		
John Wright	20		
Benjamin C. Perkins	25		paid
John Lamson	40		" "

This paper seems to have been intended as a suggestion, but their active purpose could not wait for respondents to grow, and the following action matured in the next September:—

“We the subscribers do hereby covenant and agree together, and do hereby severally promise to pay the sums set to our respective names to be appropriated to the sole purpose of procuring a proper site and erecting thereon, a suitable building for the exclusive purpose of keeping such high school or schools therein, of either or of both sexes, as shall from time to time be agreed upon by the proprietors or by those

to whom the management of the same shall be entrusted; and we do hereby severally promise to pay said sums at such times and in such proportions as shall be required by any committee duly authorized to receive the same, and it is hereby agreed that in all proceedings hereafter to be had in the premises, each subscriber shall be entitled to one vote for every twenty dollars by him or her subscribed, provided however, that no person shall give more than ten votes in his or her own right,—To the prompt and faithful performance of all that is above written we do hereby jointly and severally bind ourselves and our respective heirs.

Witness our hands this sixth day of September 1827.

	\$100	Paid
William Munday	100	"
Billy Emerson	100	"
John Rea Jr	100	"
N. Cleaveland	100	"
Frederic J. Merriam	100	"
Moses Wildes	100	"
Jacob Towne Jun	100	"
Samuel Gould	100	"
R. Merriam	100	"
Wm. N. Cleaveland	50	"
Solomon Wildes	100	"
Gilbert Brownell	100	"
Ephm Wildes	100	"
Sam'l Hood	50	"
Thos. Emerson	100	"
Nathl. Perley	25	"
Frederick Perley	25	"
Joel Lake	20	"
John Dwinell	100	"
Isaac Killam	50	"
Moses Wright	10	"
John Sawyer	25	"
Jeremiah Stone	25	"
Edward Hood	25	"
John Lamson	40	"
R. G. Dennis	25	" "

The building was begun in the fall of that year, but a se-

vere cold coming on in October (when Jack Frost through out the country placed an embargo on unharvested potatoes and confiscated thousands of bushels), the lumber was piled till the next year. The structure was 45 by 36 feet on the ground, two stories high, was covered by a hip-roof, which was surmounted by a belfry in the center, whose bell one of the worthy instructors used to say was toned to the key of P. Each story contained a large school-room with ante-room and stairway. A writer, in the *Salem Gazette*, about that time records: "The building is perfectly and commodiously finished, in two departments, upper and lower, with blinds to the whole house. It is on an elevated, and most beautiful spot, a little retired from the public road."

The land was purchased of Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland, 3 acres and 59 rods, for \$637.50. and was conveyed by deed dated Oct. 23, 1828. An entrance upon the land was near the blacksmith-shop, in low ground, it is said, and unfitted for the purposes of a school. The present entrance on Main Street was purchased of John Rea, Jr., guardian of Harriet Josephine Emerson, minor daughter of Joseph Emerson (and late the wife of Charles H Holmes, Esq., long known as the tallest man in the county), 12.7 square rods, for \$17, and was conveyed by deed dated June 10, 1829.

The following names appear in the act of incorporation: Nehemiah Cleaveland, who was a leading physician and in practice here many years; Samuel Hood, who was a carpenter by trade, a house-wright and master builder. He was master-carpenter on the Franklin Building, Salem, and on other noted structures,—and was chairman of the Academy building-committee, and the contractor and builder of it; Billy Emerson, who was the most extensive general trader Essex County ever had, and of whom it is said, he could journey to Canada (as he used to) and stop at his own hotel every night; Jacob Towne, Jr., who was town-clerk for twenty years; Isaac Killam, who was a captain in the militia and an independent farmer; Moses Wildes, who was a blacksmith and counted among the wealthy citizens; Samuel Gould, who was a grocer, and who exercised many town offices; Frederick J. Merriam, who was extensively engaged in both trading and farming, (is styled "drover," in

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the *Salem Gazette*, April 25, 1835); John Rea, Jr., who kept a hotel where Mr John Bailey's residence now is, who was later of Portsmouth, N. H., and afterwards a farmer in New Brunswick; William N. Cleaveland, who was sometime a manufacturer at "The Mills," Byfield, and later a wealthy farmer in Boxford; Jeremiah Stone, M. D., who was a skillful physician, located in town about eight years, and afterward removed his practice to Provincetown, where he died; Moses Wright, who was a captain in the militia, and, it is believed a boot-manufacturer in Topsfield and in Georgetown where he later made his home; Edward Hood, who, in modern phrase, was a cattle-broker, and conducted a large business; Nathaniel Perley, who was a General in the militia, and kept a country store, till he sold to Benjamin Perley Adams, and removed to Danvers. The property is now owned and occupied by Joseph Bailey Poor, a general merchant. The act of incorporation further states that the above named persons together with such other persons as now are, or may hereafter be associated with them and their successors \*\*\* shall be a corporation by the name of the "Proprietors of Topsfield Academy;" that by that name the institution "may sue and be sued;" may have a common seal, and may purchase and hold any real and personal estate not exceeding \$30,000 in value, and may at any legal meeting make and establish rules, orders and by-laws for the well ordering and governing the affairs of said corporation provided the same are not repugnant to the laws of the Commonwealth, and may annex penalties for the breach of any such rules, orders or by-laws, and the said corporation is hereby vested with all the powers necessary for carrying into effect the purposes of this act; and further that the property of said corporation shall be divided into shares, and the proprietors of said shares, at any legal meeting may make assessments upon the shares for the use of said corporation and the same collect, in such way and manner as may be agreed upon, and all votes shall be determined by a majority of the voters present, counting one vote to each share provided no one member, in his own right shall have more than ten votes, and the share of any proprietor who shall be delinquent in paying any assessment

may be sold at auction for the payment thereof, by the person appointed to collect the same, giving due notice of the time and place, and after paying the assessment and all the necessary incidental charges, the overplus money, if any, arising from the sale, shall be paid to the delinquent proprietor, and the shares shall be deemed personal estate and the proprietors may establish the manner of transferring the same; also, that said corporation may appoint all necessary officers and with such authority as by their by-laws they may establish for the due management of its affairs and the regulation of the school; and that the said Jacob Towne Jr., may call the first meeting and appoint the time and place thereof: *provided nevertheless*, that nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent the Legislature from altering or repealing it at any time hereafter.

The term incorporators as used above embraces such persons as appeared by name in the act of incorporation, and they do not differ otherwise from the proprietors. The following is a complete list of the first owners of the institution, showing their respective interests or number of shares. It is noticed that the certificates were not cashed till a year or two after the school had its birth. All the certificates are dated Oct. 20, 1829, except the last three which are dated Sept. 7, 1830.

1. William Munday,	No. 1 to 5.
2. Billy Emerson,	No. 6 to 10.
3. Samuel Rea, Portsmouth, N. H. (filled out and signed but not cut from stock book)	No. 11 to 15.
4. Moses Wildes,	No. 16 to 20.
5. Jacob Towne, Jr.,	No. 21 to 25.
6. Frederick J. Merriam, as Rea's (No. 3) but indorsed: Trans- ferred to Benj. Adams on March 29, 1830, for \$15.00. Marked "cancelled,"	No. 26 to 30.
7. Nehemiah Cleaveland.	No. 31 to 35.
8. Samuel Gould,	No. 36 to 40.
9. Royal Augustus Merriam,	No. 41 to 45.
10. Solomon Wildes, Boston,	No. 46 to 50.





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11. Gilbert Brownell, Boston,	No. 51 to 55.
12. Thomas Emerson,	No. 56 to 60.
13. John Dwinell,	No. 61 to 65.
14. Est. of Col. Ephraim Wildes,	No. 66 to 70.
15. Joel Lake,	No. 71.
16. Moses Wright,	No. 72.
17. John Lamson,	No. 73 & 74.
18. Wm. N. Cleaveland, transferred Sept. 4, 1830, to Rev. James F. McEwen,	No. 75, 76, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 79.
19. Cornelius B. Bradstreet,	No. 77, 78, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 79.
20. Samuel Hood, certificate cut out and gummed in again, and transferred to Rev. James F. McEwen, Sept. 4, 1830, for \$5.00,	No. 80, 81, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 84.
21. Edward Hood,	No. 82, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 84.
22. Rev. Rodney G. Dennis,	No. 83, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 84.
23. Nathaniel Perley,	No. 85, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 89.
24. Frederick Perley,	No. 86, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 89.
25. John Sawyer,	No. 87, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 89.
26. Benj. C. Perkins,	No. 88, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 89.
27. Isaac Killam,	No. 90, 91, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 92.
28. Jeremiah Stone,	No. 93, 94, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 92.
29. Samuel Bradstreet,	No. 95 to 99.
30. John Wright,	No. 100.

Benjamin Adams transferred shares No. 26 to 30 to Stillman Stone, under date April 3, 1830, for \$25. They are marked "cancelled".

Wm. N. Cleaveland transferred shares No. 75, 76,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 79, under date Sept. 4, 1830, to Rev. James F. McEwen.

The stock-book shows twelve certificates signed in blank by N. Cleaveland, President.

Jacob Towne, Jr., called the first meeting, of the proprietors and was treasurer till 1832, when Dr. Royal A. Merriam was chosen. Dr. Jeremiah Stone was the first secretary and Rev James F. McEwen succeeded him. Nehemiah Cleveland, Royal Augustus Merriam, Jeremiah Stone, Samuel Gould, Solomon Wildes, John Lamson, John Rea, William Munday and William N. Cleaveland were the first standing committee.

The institution was dedicated May 7, 1828, Rev. Rodney G. Dennis, pastor of the local church, delivering the address, which was printed. That was also the first day of the term. Mr. Dennis' address was well written, well delivered, and well received. The standing committee requested the manuscript for publication. It was published by subscription in a pamphlet of sixteen pages. Sylvester Cummings took twenty copies; N. Cleaveland, Billy Emerson, Francis Vose, Jeremiah Stone, Samuel Gould, ten each; Israel Rea, Jr., and Susan Cummings, six each; Joel Lake, William Munday, William Gunnison, Benjamin C. Perkins, Hannah P. Bradstreet, Samuel Hood, Jacob Towne, Jr., five each; W. N. Cleaveland, Benjamin Kimball, four each; David Lake, W. Conant, Thomas Balch, Cornelius B. Bradstreet, Nathaniel Perley, Moses Wright, Aaron Conant, John Wright, Lydia B. Emerson, Joseph Batchelder, Isaac Killam, W. R. Hubbard, Josiah Peabody, three each; eighteen others, two each; nineteen others, one each. The list of sixty-seven names probably shows, other things being equal, the enthusiasm with which the new institution was received.

The occasion was a red-letter day in the town's history. Mr. Dennis had spoken the right word; the school opened prosperously; the teachers were professionals; and the proprietors were in earnest and sanguine of success.

One of Mr. Dennis' opening sentences reads as follows: "Your attention is, therefore, solicited, while the attempt is made to offer some remarks, on the importance of connecting piety with knowledge. By *piety* will be understood a devout disposition of heart, accompanied by a course of life in correspondance with the divine commands, and by *knowledge*, the improvement of the mind."

Near the close he said: "This morning forms a new epoch in the annals of literature, and may we not say of piety, in this place. An Academy, in Topsfield, had, for many years past been a subject of conversation; many sanguine wishes had been expressed that there might be one, but never till now has one been opened. May we not hail its commencement, as a new occasion to the cause of learning, especially in this place? And may we not cherish the hope, too, that it will afford a fostering hand to that piety which as far ex-

cels mere human knowledge, as the unwithering glories of Heaven excel the fading, perishing treasures of this life? We congratulate its patrons on its establishment. The design does credit to your wisdom and public spirit, and the accomplishment of it to your decision. The building which you have erected is commodious and neatly finished. It does honor to the superintendent and to the architect. The spot on which it is located combines many excellences. You have been no less judicious and successful in choosing for instructors those in whom the public can put confidence, both as to their literary qualifications and their uprightness of moral character. May we not say, then, that this literary seminary has been opened under auspicious circumstances? Sustained by that wisdom, and public spirit and decision which planned and created it; and in the care of so able instructors; and in the near vicinity of so many populous towns; being easy, too, of access; and combining the advantages of salubrity of climate and beauty of surrounding scenery, can we suppress the hope that it will flourish? May the blessing of Almighty God rest upon it."

## CHAPTER II.

### THE EARLY INSTRUCTORS, FRANCIS VOSE, EDWARD D. SANBORN, MOSES P. STICKNEY, ASA FOWLER, ALFRED W. PIKE, AND MISS ANNA SEARLE.

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The first instructors were Francis Vose, A. M., principal, and Miss Matilda Leavitt, preceptress. An advertisement of the school informs us, that she was "a lady highly qualified for the situation—the care of the ladies' department." Mrs. J. R. Towne, of Evanston, Ill., wrote, that Miss Ann Cofran was Miss Leavitt's successor, and left, she thought, when Mr. Vose resigned. She says, "I was a student at the opening of the Academy, and also during the Autumn of 1835, under Mr. Pike, who left soon after that term." The advertisement continues, that the principal had "been for several years past, engaged in the business of instruction", and had "fully established the character of an able, faithful and successful teacher."

Besides this recommendation, Prof. Vose had a reputation of his own. He had been, in some way, associated with his uncle Prof. John Vose, at Atkinson, N. H., the most distinguished teacher, says Dr. Geo. Cogswell, that Academy ever had. He married his cousin, one of Prof. John Vose's daughters, and thus became more vitally connected with the good name and work of his uncle. These things joined with his good ability and aptness to teach, creeping out quietly and widely into literary circles, made Prof. Francis Vose a very promising man, as governor and instructor of the new Academy.

The course of study, as in all academies, was arranged for mental discipline, moral culture, and practical life. The exercises of the commencement, Aug. 10, 1830, consisting of music, declamations, compositions and discussions, show that the Academy enjoyed a high degree of prosperity. There

were twenty-one compositions, thirty-one declamations and an original hymn. These are some of the subjects treated, and the names of some of the writers and speakers: "Men may live fools, but fools they cannot die"; "Is public opinion a just criterion of moral character"; "The only amaranthine flower on earth is virtue"; "The world is infectious, few bring back at eve, immaculate, the manners of the morn". Miss Harriet Josephine Emerson told of "The Aborigines of America," and John G. Hood gave "Some reasons, why the custom of wearing mourning apparel should be discontinued". T. P. Munday declaimed of "Africa's future Glory"; George F. Choate, of "Mount Sinai"; J. G. Hood, of the "Cause of Missions"; and C. Cummings, of "The Grave". "The effect of Juvenile Libraries", was told by Moses K. Cross; "The importance of reading history", by A. F. Richards; "Love of Fame", by W. A. Peabody; "Lectures, a mode of instruction", by J. Peabody. There were discussions: "Does the King or peasant enjoy most happiness", by C. H. Roades and A. Gould; "Does the fear of law, or the loss of reputation, deter most from crime", by D. C. Gallup and E. Towne. There were these declamations: "Extirpation of the Indians", by M. K. Cross; "Talents", by E. Batchelder; "Influence of the higher classes of society", by P. Lovett; "Love of Country", by W. H. Lackey; "Slothfulness reproved", by C. Treadwell; an extract by G. F. Eveleth; "Solace of Hope", by M. B. Wildes; "Influence of Charity", by F. Cox; "Encouragements to Benevolence", by H. F. Putnam; "Nations of New England," by C. Page; "Intrepidity of our Ancestors", by J. B. Eveleth; "Pilgrim Fathers", by A. Bradstreet; "Tomorrow", by J. Rea; "The Prize", by F. M. Lord; "The Cause of propagating the Gospel should stand on its own claims", by A. Gould; "Character of the Philanthropist," by A. T. Richards; "Right of suffrage", by S. W. Bradstreet; "The instability of earthly greatness", by R. West; "Protection of the defenceless," by C. H. Rhoades; "Resistance of the Colonies encouraged", by J. D. Black, "Tears of Science", by M. Wildes; "Obligation of Americans", by W. A. Peabody; "Intemperance", by J. Peabody; "Avarice in Government", by E. Towne; "Claims of the Colonization Society", by D. P. Gallup.

Besides these there were Latin and Greek declamations,

and an original hymn by Miss Harriet Josephine Emerson, which Rev. M. K. Cross says was very fine, far beyond her years. D. Peabody, also, gave "a short, pertinent and eloquent address."

At the commencement, of Aug. 9, 1831, there were fifty assignments: vocal music, nineteen compositions, an original poem by George Hood, two discussions, and twenty-six declamations—one Greek, one Latin, and two original.

Prof. Vose was a severe disciplinarian. He believed in the letter of the law. Dr. Cogswell, when eighty-two years of age [1890] related an instance in point. It was at Atkinson Academy, at the time the Doctor's youngest brother fitted for college, about 1820, or perhaps a little later. Four young men having completed their preparatory course for college desired of Master Vose the usual recommendation to Dartmouth College. But the evening before leaving, in violation of the school rules, they walked out with some of their female companions and school-mates, and the recommendations were withheld.

"What dire offense from friendly causes springs!  
What mighty contests rise from trivial things!"

What lady indulging in reminiscence of academic life will not pronounce the punishment extremely severe, and what gentleman will not wonder what in contrast would be the condign punishment of the pretty features, grace of manners, and cultured intellect that Eve-like proffered the forbidden fruit! *Sic volvere parcas.*

It was, however, Prof. Vose's business to rear a careful man, an exact man, a just man, a liberty-loving and law-abiding citizen, as well as a thinking man in scholastic walks. Rev. Benjamin Howe, late of the Linebrook Church, who was a student a year under Prof. Vose, esteemed him highly and spoke of him as a dignified Christian gentleman, a pleasant and thorough instructor, a ripe scholar.

The Academy at once became a literary center, and Prof. Vose stood among the best educators in the county. It was at this academy, and during Mr. Vose's principalship, Dec. 4 and 5, 1830, that the *Essex County Teacher's Association* had its birth. Mr. Vose was the first recording secretary and continued in that office several years. There had been a pre-

liminary meeting, presumably here in the June preceding. At this meeting in December a full board of officers was chosen and a constitution adopted. The annual and semi-annual meetings, by a provision of the constitution, were to be held here. The association was incorporated April 19, 1837, and the names appearing in the act of incorporation are N. Cleaveland of Byfield Academy (Dr. N. Cleaveland, of Topsfield, died Feb. 26, 1837), Benjamin Greenleaf, the mathematician, late principal of Bradford Academy, and George Titcomb, "Master Titcomb," as he was familiarly called, in Newburyport, where he first taught a private school and then the "Brown High School." The corporation could hold real and personal property to the value of \$20,000. The association still lives, and as it has done in the past, so it is now doing, a good work. Mr. Jefferson Kimball Cole, now many years a teacher in Peabody, was several years its secretary.

At the same time the Academy was made a *Publishers' Repository of New Books*. In this it acquired a merited distinction. Here centered the learning of Eastern Essex County. About this pole revolved the interest of the reviewer, the critic, the litterateur. It was a thoughtful and apt use of the institution. Our nation then had no literature worthy the name, when compared with the world of letters. Nor is the fact startling! Colonial and provincial labors were works of necessity; there had been no time for anything else. But this, the period of which we write, permanently free from martial strife, was opportune for civic expansion. The national lyceums movement of 1829 indicated the popular sentiment in regard to literature. This repository was to supplement the labors of authors, by culling and pruning, by suggestion and commendation, thus enlarging the sphere, the influence and the value of their productions. The Academy was certainly in honor.

Prof. Vose was taxed in Topsfield, 1829-30-31. A record places him in Topsfield as late as the first of December, 1831. He called a meeting of the Essex County Teachers' Association over the date: "Haverhill, Nov. 10, 1832." The programmes of the commencements 1830 and 1831 are beyond a doubt his. But Superintendent of Schools Albert L. Bartlett, of Haverhill, wrote, "Francis Vose was the Preceptor of

Haverhill Academy in 1831." Probably he taught a term in the fall of 1831. This is the nearest approach to the exact date of his resignation.

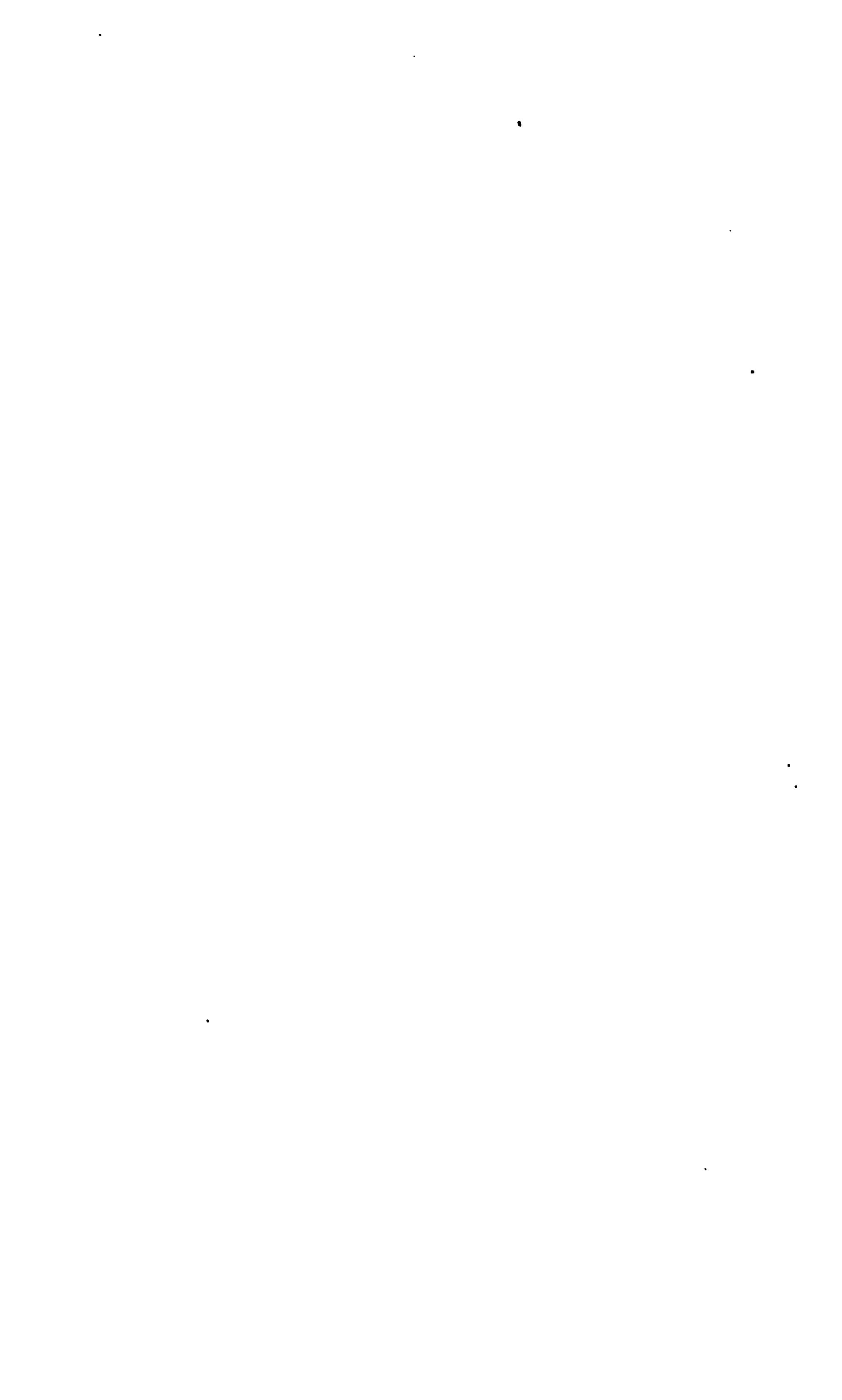
Francis Vose was son of Francis\* and Phebe (Clement) Vose, and was born in Francestown, N. H., Oct. 31, 1788. He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1817, and took his Master's degree in course. He taught, says an apparent authority, in Francestown, Atkinson, and Hampton, N. H.; in Colchester and Bloomfield, Ct.; and in Haverhill, Topsfield, and Newburyport, Mass.

His son George T. Vose, of Alexandria, N. H., writes:— "My father was a professional teacher for more than twenty years. His health failing, he bought and cultivated, during his later years, a farm in Pembroke, N. H. He was elected a trustee of the Pembroke Academy very soon after locating there, and was placed on the executive committee, where he remained, until his death, by a throat difficulty, Aug. 13, 1851.

"He was twice married, first in Pembroke, N. H., to Miss Elizabeth Quincy Vose, ['a more than ordinary woman', said Dr. George Cogswell], daughter of John Vose, Esq., who as author of an astronomy, was titled 'Hon'. She died of consumption, in Hampton, N. H. By that wife he had only one child John Francis, who died young in May, 1831, in Hampton N. H., where he was born.

"He married, second, Jan. 24, 1830, Mary Ann Brackett, daughter of Thomas and Mary Pickering Brackett, of Greenland, N. H. She was born Sept. 4, 1800. Her last years were spent in the family of her son in Alexandria, N. H. For eight years next previous to her death, she was confined to her home by paralysis. A letter received from her only a short time before her death, shows cultured thought,

\*Francis Vose, Senior, was son of Samuel and Phebe (Vickery) Vose, of Bedford, N. H., who was son of Robert and Abigail (Sumner) Vose, who was son of Henry and Elizabeth (Babcock) Vose, who was son of Capt. Thomas and Wait-still (Wyatt) Vose, who was son of Robert (born 1599) and his wife Jane. Samuel Vose's family was said to be scholarly. Col. Elijah Vose once said: "Cousin, always maintain the dignity of the name of Vose," and thus embodied his idea of the family respectability. Old Col. Fabor once said that he had so profound a regard for Prof. John Vose, that he always felt, when he heard the name of Vose, like taking off his hat.—Peter E. Vose.





HON. ASA FOWLER.

and a chirography seldom excelled by modern schools. She died at the home of her son, Sept. 22, 1890, leaving two sons, George Thomas and John Francis, her only children. She was buried in the family lot in Pembroke, N. H."

The dutiful son continues: "My great grandfather was George Brackett, Esq., of Greenland, N. H. (born 1737, died 1825) who married Dec. 18, 1764, Ann March, daughter of Dr. Clement March, of Greenland, who, it is understood, was sometime consul at Madeira, and afterwards travelled in the Orient, and died at the residence of the American consul at Alexandria, Egypt; and whose nephew, Charles W. March, was a writer of repute and private secretary to Daniel Webster, when the latter was Secretary of State. George Brackett left a fund of \$5,000 to the Congregational church in Greenland, N. H. \$2,600 to the Hampton Academy, and \$2,000, to aid in founding Greenland Academy, which bears his name. George's brother, 'Old Dr. Brackett' of Portsmouth was celebrated for his medical knowledge and skill. My great uncle Joshua Brackett was a Harvard graduate, and a doctor of repute."

Mr. Vose's labors are still cherished in Topsfield. His character left its impress upon citizen as well as scholar. He was helpful in civic life and in church as well as in school and among men of letters. He called his school together Sunday morning, for religious instruction; he instituted in the church a Sunday school. He was an able, energetic, all-round man; his school was a gem that attracted by its brilliancy and worth.

## EDWIN DAVID SANBORN.

Mr Sanborn was Mr. Vose's successor. His son Edwin W. Sanborn thinks his father "taught at Topsfield during the winter of 1831-2, and possibly nearly all that school year, since he taught nine months of his senior year at college". The New Hampshire Press Association Annual, 1884-8, says Prof. Sanborn taught, during his college course, 1828-32, in Brentwood, N. H., twice in Concord, and in the academies of Derry, N. H., and Topsfield, Mass., "continuing in the latter place a year after his graduation." Albeit the spring and

fall terms of 1832 of this academy opened May 2, and September 5, with Mr. Sanborn as principal.

The term beginning in May agreed in time with his last term of his four years' course at Dartmouth College, and while he was passing his examination there. Moses Parsons Stickney\* officiated in the academy—"a brief interval", wrote Mr. Stickney, "of four or five weeks at longest."

James F. McEwen, secretary of the proprietors, in announcing the Academy's opening, spoke of Mr. Sanborn as "a gentleman highly recommended for classical attainments and talents as a teacher"—a recommendation fully sustained by him in his long literary career.

In 1835, his *Alma Mater* elected him tutor for one year. He was elected to the professorship of the Latin and the Greek languages in the same year, and was professor of the Latin language and literature from 1837 to 1859. He resigned and accepted his election to the chair of classical literature and history in Washington University, which he occupied from 1859 to 1863. The latter year he was again elected by his *Alma Mater*—this time professor of Oratory and Belles-lettres. He was librarian to the college from 1866 to 1874. He became professor of Anglo-Saxon and English language and literature, 1880. He received his master's degree in course; the University of Vermont added LL. D., 1859, and Dartmouth the same, 1879. Mr. Sanborn was born May 14, 1808, and died Dec. 29, 1885. Miss Kate Sanborn, author-

\*Mr. Stickney, as a Congregational clergyman, settled in Eastport, Me. Afterwards he changed his views and was ordained in the Episcopal church, by Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, Feb. 25, 1841. He passed from deacon to priesthood, and as such became rector of St. Michael's church in Marblehead in 1842; then of St. Peter's in Cambridgeport in 1847; then of Burlington College, N. J.; then assistant minister in the church of the Advent, in Boston, in 1853, which he resigned in 1870. Thereafter he spent his winters in Boston and his summers in the rural quiet of his home in Royalton, Vt. He was born in Byfield, Mass., July 12, 1807, to Lt. Moses and Lois (Pike) Stickney, and died Aug. 19, 1894. His children were Anna Elizabeth Gray, born Aug. 12, 1843; William Brunswick Curry, born Jan. 16, 1845; Henry Stover, born March 25, 1849; Agnes Mary Palmer, born Oct. 5, 1851; and Cornelia Loring, born Aug. 14, 1861. Of these children only two are living, William a lawyer in Bethel and Cornelia a music teacher in Royalton, Vermont.

ess, New York, is his daughter, and he has two sons, lawyers in New York and Boston.

## ASA FOWLER.

Asa Fowler, A. B., succeeded Mr. Sanborn. He opened the fall term of 1833, Wednesday, September 4th. He had just taken his diploma at Dartmouth. Dr. Nathan Lord, President of the college, thus recommended him: "Mr. Fowler stands in the foremost rank of scholars, is a man of very unexceptionable morality and of great industry and fidelity." He was principal here a single term.

Mr. Fowler was the ninth child in a family of eleven, and was born in Pembroke, N. H., Feb. 23, 1811. He married July 13, 1837, Mary Dole Cilley Knox of Epsom, who died Oct. 11, 1882. At the age of fourteen he was stricken with typhoid fever. Afterwards he attended Blanchard Academy, then in charge of Hon. John Vose, where he fitted for a teacher in the common schools. He worked alternately on the farm and in school. He studied Latin sixty weeks, and entered the sophomore class in Dartmouth College, where he graduated, in 1833, in the first third of his class. He was never absent from, nor unprepared at, any recitation during his 3 years' course. After teaching here, he studied law with James Sullivan, Pembroke, through the winter, and in March, 1834, entered the law-office of Hon. Charles H. Peaselee, Concord, as student. He was admitted to the bar in 1837; was elected clerk of the N. H. Senate in 1835, and had six successive elections; was U. S. commissioner of the district of N. H., from 1846; was member of the N. H. House of Representatives 1845-7-8, and chairman of the judiciary committee; was an independent Democratic nominee for governor in 1855; was associate justice of Supreme Court from Aug. 1, 1855 to Feb. 1, 1861, when he resigned; was delegate to the famous Peace Congress, at Washington, 1861; was law-partner of President Pierce from Sept., 1838, to April, 1845, and later of Wm. E. Chandler. He has drafted more bills for the legislature than any other man living or dead. In Oct., 1888, his children, William P., of Boston, and Clara M. Fowler presented to the city of Concord, N. H., a public library building as a memorial of their parent. The total cost of the gift was \$25,000.

## ALFRED WASHINGTON PIKE.

Alfred W. Pike succeeded to the principalship Dec. 3, 1834. The public announcements of this school had hitherto been made over the signature of the proprietors' secretary; but now over the signature of Mr. Pike, as if he had hired the property of the proprietors, and purposed to make the school completely his own. He removed his family into town in November, 1834, from Boston, where he had been keeping a private school. He was taxed here in 1835.

Prof. Pike was a farmer's son, born in Rowley, March 21, 1791, to Joseph and Lois (Tenney) Pike. He graduated at Dartmouth in 1815, and adopted the teacher's profession. He taught classical schools and fitted young men for college, in Newburyport, Framingham, Woburn, Rowley, Boston, and brought to this school a ripe experience of more than twenty years. Under his tuition the school might have flourished long, but for a libel suit versus Beals and Green of the Boston Post. The Standing Committee of the proprietors—N. Cleaveland, Jacob Towne, Moses Wildes, R. A. Merriam, James F. McEwen, Nathaniel Perley, Jeremiah Stone—did all in their power to save the man and sustain the good name of the Academy, but merely nominal damages were not enough to disabuse the public mind, and Mr. Pike left shortly after the fall term of 1835. He died in Boston Sept. 6, 1860, at the age of sixty-nine years.—See further, Geo. T. Chapman's *Alumni of Dartmouth College*.

## MISS ANNA SEARLE.

Miss Searle taught sometime between the principalships of Professors Pike and Greenleaf. She had taught a private school in Georgetown, D. C., for eighteen or twenty years, and brought to the Academy a ripe experience, eminent qualifications, and a noble Christian character and influence. She taught a full term, and no longer. She had "about fifteen pupils," says Mrs. Sarah A. Jenness, of Beverly, "of whom I was one. Mrs. Esther W. Hutchings, of Topsfield was another. Miss Searle boarded with Mrs. Susannah Cummings, sister of Moses Wildes, whose daughter Susan Cummings married Rev. Martin Moore, of Charlestown,

Mass." Mrs. Jenness continues: "Miss Searle was a lady of culture and intellectual superiority, and a conscientious Christian. Her intellectual and moral instruction was enduring. Her ability was not appreciated by the people."

Miss Searle taught, it is understood, in Newburyport early in her life. Mr. Isaac Wheelwright, a native of Newburyport, who studied for the ministry, and afterwards was an eminent teacher in South America and who died two years ago, at the advanced age of ninety-two years, attended her school there and thought a great deal of her as a teacher. Her oldest brother's first settlement in the gospel ministry, it is said, was in Virginia, and probably one led the other into that section. She left her school in Georgetown, to visit her father in his old age and sickness, intending, in due time, to return to the school; but her own health was failing, and, listening to the expressed wishes of her relatives and friends, she decided to make the home of her youth the abode of her declining years.

During this period, writes Mr. E. P. Searle, of Byfield, "Aunt Ann taught in the old Emerson Seminary, in Byfield, one or two years, a year or more in West Newbury, a town school near the Byfield Depot, and a winter term in her home district." He writes further: "She was a lady of stirring character, of strong religious faith, pleasant and good in all her ways." Mrs. Sarah H. Todd, of Rowley, her niece, writes: "She was a devoted Christian, and a lady of intelligence and refinement. She taught a Sunday school of colored children in Georgetown, D. C."

Her parental home was the Searle corner, near the site of the ancient Tenney grist-mill, and of the present Dummer saw-mill, in Rowley-Byfield. Her parents were Joseph, Jr., and Molly Searle. She had a sister Ruthy, born March, 23, 1784, and brothers: Thomas Colman, born Jan. 15, 1787; Joseph, 3d, born Dec. 2, 1789; Caleb, born May 21, 1792; and Moses C[olman], who was supplying the Byfield pulpit when he died. Thomas went to Madison, Ind., a six weeks journey at that time, and was settled three years over the first church gathered there, and died there leaving a wife and two children, who have now passed away. Mr. E. P. Searle never heard of his abode or labors in Virginia. Joseph

preached in North Bridgton and Saccarappa, Me., in one of which places he died leaving one son now living in Niles, Mich. Caleb was a butcher whom the old people now remember as a marketman from Byfield to Salem twice a week. Anna was born Nov. 1, 1783. Where she was educated is not known. Her Christian methods in school suggest a training in the old Emerson Female Seminary in Byfield; but Rev. Joseph Emerson, buying the church edifice and remodeling it, opened his school in 1818, about the time Miss Searle began her labors at the national capital. She never married. Fourteen days before her death, she had a shock of palsy, dying June 11, 1841, in the house wherein she was born.

## CHAPTER III.

BENJAMIN GREENLEAF AND HIS SUCCESSORS,  
ASA FARWELL, WILLIAM F. KENT, EDMUND F. SLAFTER,  
BURTON O. MARBLE, DANIEL O. QUINBY, JOSEPH  
H. NOYES, AND KINSMAN ATKINSON.

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The last record that we find of the meeting of the Essex County Teachers' Association at this place, is dated Dec. 1 and 2, 1835. The Association's meeting in 1837 was held Dec. 4 and 5, in the Court House at Ipswich. An advertisement dated May 5, 1837, reads: "Six small boys or girls may receive board, tuition and parental care in the family of the subscriber, James F. McEwen." By a pamphlet catalogue, 1839-40, Mr. Greenleaf taught the fall term and Mr. Farwell the spring and summer terms. It is inferred from these records that the Academy may have been discontinued two or three years from the time when Mr. Pike left.

However that may be, the proprietors chose an attractive name to open the "Second Summer term of 1839." Richard Phillips, as the proprietors' secretary, advertised it for July 24, "under the care of Benjamin Greenleaf, Esq., and gave as references: Rev. James F. McEwen, Charles H. Holmes, Esq., Joseph C. Batchelder, M. D. No teacher was better known in the county or enjoyed a better reputation as a thorough, practical, and successful instructor. Mr. Greenleaf was a graduate of Dartmouth College, in 1813, and had been twenty-two years principal of the Bradford Academy, taking it with ten students and leaving it with one hundred fifty, and an enviable national reputation. While principal here, Mr. Greenleaf accomplished considerable upon that series of arithmetics which has made his name familiar throughout the land—especially the Common School Arithmetic, which has been imitated so much, but neither excelled nor even equalled

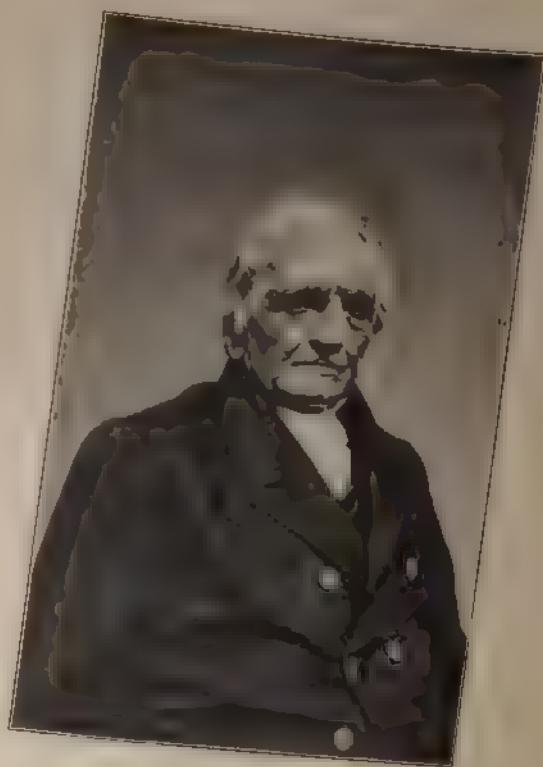
Some three or four months before his death, which occurred Oct. 29, 1864, when he was 78 years old, the writer visited him. He was genial and busy as ever. A large ribbon-box from a fancy goods store contained the manuscript of his last book—a practical surveying—nearly completed. He lived in his loved employ, and was oblivious to all else. He had arranged a new multiplication table: "I 1-2 times I 1-2 are 2 1-4; I 1-2 times 2 1-2 are 3 3-4; I 1-2 times 3 1-2 are 5 1-4, etc." This he repeated with as much ease as an ordinary school-boy would say, "Twice 2 are 4; twice 3 are 6; twice 4 are 8, etc." From every round of the mathematical ladder he would rehearse definition and rule with an accuracy and rapidity that would distance and surprise the most thorough collegiate. He spoke of Dr. Adams and his arithmetic, of Warren Colburn and his "Colburns"—of Adams with great respect and esteem, of Colburn with admiration. He gave his visitor two photographs—one of himself and one of Dr. Adams—and they are among the writer's choicest souvenirs.

The winter term began December 4th, and continued eighteen weeks. Joseph E. Bomer, who was many years a skillful physician at Ipswich, was a pupil, the term which began April 15th and closed November 5th.

Another pupil, Mr. E. R. Perkins of Salem, writes, that Mr. Greenleaf taught two terms, beginning in April and ending in October, 1839, and adds: "I attended his first term; the school numbered sixty scholars, of all grades and ages, from ten years to twenty-five; his nephew Moses P. Greenleaf, of Haverhill, assisted in the lower grades. Mr. Greenleaf was a rather nervous man; at times very active; and his clear, ringing voice would make the old academy ring when a boy forgot to behave. He had a habit of smoothing down a boy's face heavily with his palm, if the boy was caught whispering. He always opened school with prayer and used the same one continually, full half the time scanning every desk with his keen eyes. He used his own arithmetic, and boys asking assistance he delighted to put off with a cunning smile on his face, and the kindly injunction: 'Puzzle it out.' "

Mrs. Ellen F. (Kimball) Morgan writes as follows: "By





BENJAMIN GREENLEAF

a mere chance, I found among some old papers an original catalogue of the Academy, issued in 1840, by that celebrated mathematician, Benjamin Greenleaf, A. M., who was principal in the fall term of that year, and Asa Farwell, A. B., principal of the winter and summer terms. The number of students was—gentlemen 58, and ladies 46. One of the gentlemen was Geronimo Sigaroly, from St. Jago, Cuba. Can any of those who attended school at the time give any information in regard to the Spanish student, who drifted into this quiet village from that fair island of the tropics? In comparing the old catalogue with those of 1857 and '58, by Profs. Healy and Allis, I find nearly the same inducements, as healthfulness of locality, over-sight of students, and other minor items, but the course of study suffers, in comparison, not so much in the classical department as in the English. We never found a more puzzling, yet practical arithmetic than Mr. Greenleaf's. His algebra was used extensively in the schools at a later date. The curriculum was narrow in other respects, when compared with the branches taught from 1855 to 1859."

After leaving this institution, he conducted the Bradford Teacher's Seminary, which was doubtless suggested by the discussions of the Essex County Teachers' Association, of which he was one of the founders.

The wisdom of the proprietors of the school to employ Mr. Greenleaf became apparent. He established its old-time reputation, the old grounds re-echoed with the voices of many students, and the halls were devoted to patient study. It became an attraction alike to scholars and teachers of character and ability.

## ASA FARWELL.

Mr. Greenleaf was succeeded by Asa Farwell, A. B. J. C. Batchelder, Secretary, March 7, 1840, announced the next term of the school to begin April 15, 1840, under the care of "the present Principal, Mr. Asa Farwell, A. B." He began the preceding winter term.

Mr. E. R. Perkins, of Salem, one of his pupils, wrote: "He was admired by his scholars, as a teacher and a gentleman." Mr. Thomas K. Leach, of Topsfield, said: "He was

a fine man and an excellent teacher." Rev. Calvin E. Park, of West Boxford, wrote: "He was held in high estimation both as to talents and character."

"Asa Farwell," wrote his widow from Easthampton, "taught at Topsfield one year—1840-1. He was born to Gurdon and Anna (Farnsworth) Farwell, in Dorset, Vt., March 8, 1812. He fitted for college under his pastor, Rev. William Jackson, D. D., at Dorset, and at Burr Seminary, Manchester, Vt. He graduated at Middlebury College, 1838, and at Andover Theological Seminary in 1842. He was approbated to preach by the Andover Association, in the spring of that year. From May, 1842, to Nov., 1853, he was principal of Abbot Academy, Andover. He traveled in Europe during a portion of 1849-50. He was ordained April 12, 1853, and installed pastor of the Congregational church, in West Haverhill, and dismissed in 1856. He preached in Bentonport, on the Des Moines, Iowa, from 1866 to 1871, when he went to Ashland, 24 miles from Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1877, he became professor in Doane College, Crete, Nebraska. In 1881, he returned, in ill health, to Dorset, and in 1882 retired to Ludlow, where his son, Charles Gurdon Farwell, was principal of Black River Academy. He died suddenly, of paralysis of the heart, May 14, 1888, in his 77th year.

"There have doubtless been many men of more showy, and among a large class of people of more popular, talent than he; but for sound scholarship and solid good sense, for clear and scriptural views of evangelical faith, for sincere and devoted piety, for honest and faithful service as a minister, very few men have excelled him."

His first wife was Hannah Sexton, of Windsor, Ct., who was married Dec. 10, 1845, and died Sept. 4, 1848. His second wife was her sister Mary Ann Sexton, who was married Aug. 10, 1849, and with four sons of his six children survives him.

#### WILLIAM FAYETTE KENT.

William Fayette Kent followed Prof. Farwell. He was born in Dorset, Vt., in July, 1820, and graduated at Middlebury College, in 1839. He was principal of Bennington Academy, 1839-40, and probably taught here next; he was

taxed here, as was Mr. Farwell, in 1841. He taught nearly two terms. He was a very pleasant man and teacher, but was reading law at the time and paid more attention to his illustrious namesake and Blackstone than to his school. The inevitable result followed. He left the school before the timely ending of the term. It is said he read law in Salem. For some years he was a mercantile agent in the West and South. In 1851, he resided in Zanesville, O. He died in 1856—probably in St. Louis, Mo. He was an energetic man, a fine scholar, and a brilliant speaker. He delivered an oration at a Fourth of July celebration in Topsfield, and Hon. Asahel Huntington, Otis P. Lord, Esq., (afterwards Judge Lord) and Secretary Crowninshield of the U S Navy, were some of the dignitaries who graced the occasion.

Mr. Humphrey Balch, of Topsfield, very highly complimented his effort on that occasion, in giving us some account of the celebration, and Mr. E. R. Perkins wrote: "He was a fine orator. His oration was an eloquent production and was widely commented upon and praised."

#### EDMUND FARWELL SLAGTER

Mr. Slatter was principal of the Academy one year, he says, beginning in the autumn of 1841, and ending with the summer term of 1842. He was born May 30, 1816, and graduated at Dartmouth in 1840. "As a teacher, he was liked very well," wrote one of his pupils. He has gained celebrity in the pulpit, and is widely known as an archæologist, whose authority is in high repute. He was ordained by the Rt. Rev. Manton Eastburne, D. D., July 12, 1844; was Rector of St. Peter's church, Cambridge, two years; of St. John's, Jamaica Plain, 1846-53; was superintendent in the American Bible Society of the Protestant Episcopal church, twenty years, is a member of the Mass. Historical Society; Royal Historical Society of England; president of the Prince Society, and has been a member of its council from its organization in 1858; is registrar of the Diocese of Massachusetts, and has issued six annual reports; and is corresponding secretary of the Mass. Bible Society and chairman of its prudential committee. He has numerous publications: Death of

Gen. Zachary Taylor; Planting and Growth of Episcopal Church; Slafter Genealogy; Assassination Plot of 1776; Charter of Norwich, Vt.; Vermont Coinage; Anniversary of the Historic-Genealogical Society; Copper Coinage, 1632; Pre-historic Copper Implements; Voyages of the Norsemen; Voyages of Champlain; Incorrect Latitudes, 1535-1740; Royal Arms, Emblems, Memorials; Norman Discovery of America; making 17 volumes in all. He now resides in Boston, at the age of 83 years.

Joseph Edward Bomer was an assistant to Mr. Slafter. Mrs. S. A. Jenness, of Beverly, writes, that young Bomer was a member of the Academy in 1839, when Mr. Greenleaf taught. She was a student at the time. She speaks in praise of young Bomer's perseverance. He walked to the Academy from Wenham daily. He began to teach in the winter of 1839 (in Hamilton, she thinks) and was recommended by Mr. Greenleaf. His first school was a great success.

Assistant Bomer was born in Beverly March 14, 1819, the fifth son in a family of nine children. His father, John S. Bomer, was a farmer, and of French descent. Joseph inherited a delicate constitution; he was fond of books; and was devoted to intellectual pursuits. He was a student under the tuition of Prof. Slafter, who became very much attached to him, and later on engaged him as assistant. Mr. Slafter, under date of Nov. 10, 1842, thus commended him:—

"This may certify that Mr. Joseph E. Bomer has been a member of this institution seven months, has made good attainments in study, is a young man of great perseverance and of good promise. He possesses an unimpeachable moral character, is dignified and courteous in his manners and worthy the highest esteem. He has read under my tuition several of Cicero's orations, and a part of the *Aenead* of Virgil; likewise the introductory exercises, the fables, and 120 paragraphs of Jacob's Greek Reader; also Day's Algebra as far as infinitesimals, working all the problems. He has been a successful teacher, and I can most cheerfully recommend him as being well qualified to instruct in any town school agreeably to the laws of any of the New England States."





REV EDMUND F SLAFTER

He afterwards studied in Phillips Exeter and Phillips Andover Academies and Harvard Medical School, graduating from the latter in 1848. In 1849, he settled in Ipswich. He located near the residence of Dr. Thomas Manning, the oldest and most skillful physician in the town. Dr. Bomer married Caroline Elizabeth Hayes, daughter of Daniel Hayes, of Gloucester (who now resides in Ipswich), Oct. 23, 1850, and soon after. Dr. Manning, feeling the burden of his age and profession, invited the young doctor to reside with him and assume his practice. The offer was accepted and they lived in reciprocal confidence to the end. Dr. Bomer was physician to the House of Correction till his death, examining surgeon during the Rebellion, and member of the school board many years. He was one of the founders of the Episcopal Church and society and an earnest supporter of them. "A beautiful memorial window was placed in the chancel of the church, by Rev. Dr. John Cotton Smith, as a sacred memorial of his love and devotion to the church." He was a genial, sympathetic, Christian gentleman, and was eminently a public spirited citizen, and foremost in all works of public utility. He died in Ipswich, Sept. 11, 1864, aged forty-five years.

## BURTON ONESIPHORUS MARBLE.

Mr. Marble was taxed in Topsfield in 1844, and by that fact we understand he taught the Academy during the spring term of that year. Mr. E. R. Perkins, of Salem, says, Mr. Marble began with the fall term of 1843 and taught through the winter and spring, but is not sure that he taught the following summer. He was born in Bradford, Feb. 27, 1812, and graduated at Dartmouth College, 1838, dying at Dover, N. H., July 12, 1845, says Chapman's Dartmouth Alumni.

Mr. Perkins continues: "He was very sober, stiff, sedate; and was a very thorough teacher—he was thorough in everything he taught; the lessons assigned were exactly defined and to be thoroughly learned—it had to be done. He allowed no whispering. It was the stillest school I was ever in. Each scholar had to keep a record of his daily work—of his errors and whispers. When a question was missed, he would say, 'You will please record an error.' The records

were examined once a week. He was a teacher to be respected."

DANIEL OSGOOD QUINBY.

Prof. Quinby was taxed in Topsfield in 1845, and it is inferred from that fact, that he taught the spring or summer term of that year. His service ended with the summer term in June, 1846. A correspondent writes: "Some thought he was too familiar with his scholars; he liked to play foot-ball with them, and was fond of athletic sports. At the close of the last term, he announced to the school, when the next term would begin. The old bell rang the call but he never responded."

Mr. Quinby was born in Amesbury, Dec. 21, 1821. His parents were Capt. Robert and Abigail, who owned large farming interests. His mother was a daughter of Orlando Sargent. She was a sister of Mrs. Sally Weed, who was 100 years old, Jan. 28, 1898, and is now living in Merrimac. Her younger brother Francis, was of the firm of Francis Sargent & Co., carriage manufacturers, Boston.

Daniel Quinby attended Dummer Academy five years, under the tuition of Master Nehemiah Cleaveland. Joseph H. Noyes, the next principal of the Topsfield Academy, was a classmate. Mr. Quinby graduated at Bowdoin College in 1839. In his class were the late Judge Choate of Salem, Hon. William D. Northend, also of Salem, and W. W. Caldwell, of Newburyport.

Directly after graduation and while a law-student, he taught school two years in Maine. Then returning home to Amesbury, he sought and obtained the principalship of the Topsfield Academy. The office, however, not proving sufficiently remunerative, he resigned at the end of the school year, June, 1846.

After leaving the Academy, he was engaged, as teacher, in Watertown, Mass.; High school, Dover, N. H.; Norwich Academy, Ct.; Union-Hall Academy, Jamaica, L. I.; and was sometime professor of chemistry in New York City. During the last dozen years of his life, he was engaged in a proprietary medicine business.

Mr. Quinby married, Nov. 25, 1859, Miss Clara Belle

Moulton, sister of H. W. Moulton, Esq., of Newburyport, and had five children, four of whom died in infancy. His eldest child was a lady of great promise, residing, at the age of twenty-one (1890), in Paterson, N. J. Mrs. Quinby died in Boston, Nov. 30, 1882 at the age of fifty-six years. Mr. Quinby died of paralysis of the brain, in Haverhill, Mass., at the home of his brother, Thomas W. Quinby, Dec. 23, 1894, at the age of seventy-three years and a day. The remains of all his dead repose in the Belleville Cemetery, Newburyport, near the old Amesbury cemetery where lies the ashes of their ancestors for the last two hundred and forty-six years.

## JOSEPH HALE NOYES

Mr. Noyes taught three terms in the year 1846, beginning in March or April. He was born in Byfield Parish, Newbury, May 12, 1825, to Dea. Daniel and Mary Hale (Parish) Noyes, who was a daughter of Rev. Elijah Parish, distinguished in clerical circles throughout the state, as author and preacher. The family comprised eight sons and two daughters.

Joseph was educated at Dummer Academy, and was probably admitted there at an earlier age than any other pupil. He was reading Greek when only ten years old. He never entered college, but was under private tutors, at Dummer, an equivalent of two years in college.

He began life as teacher at the age of eighteen years. He taught the Feoffee's school at Ipswich with marked success, and was called to the Purchase Street school, then to the Jackman school, Newburyport. Leaving Topsfield, he was elected principal of the High school in Brattleboro, Vt., and after that service had charge of High schools in Malden, Wellesley, and Marblehead, and made an honorable record in Medford, Dedham, and Newton. One of his Topsfield students writes: "He was liked very well as a teacher; he was a very handsome man; a good penman, and taught a writing school evenings, during the winter term." Bowdoin College conferred upon him, July 13, 1871, an honorary A. M., in recognition of his standing as a classical teacher. The honor was not sought by him, and came as a surprise.

The state of his health compelled his retirement in 1884, after a school service of more than forty years; when he returned to Newburyport, and engaged in the far less irksome duties of book-keeper and cashier for W. H. Noyes & Brother. He was prominent in church circles, and for seven years was superintendent of the "Old South" sunday school.

Mr. Noyes married, in Newbury-Byfield, Dec. 1, 1853, Miss Abby Maria Young, who was born in Newburyport, July 28, 1828, to Abigail Tenney and James Young, a grocer and trader. She died, in Newburyport, Jan. 4, 1871. He married, second, in Worcester, Dec. 29, 1874, Mary Elizabeth Moore, who was born there April 13, 1839, to Mary Fuller and Wm. G. Moore, a farmer. Prof. Noyes died Sept. 25, 1896, in his 72nd year. He had four children: twin sons, born April 26, 1857, who died less than a week old—Abbie Parish, born in Newburyport, Aug. 28, 1861; married Sept. 12, 1893, in Newburyport, Samuel Foster Jaques, a civil-engineer, who was born there, Nov. 29, 1865, to Rachel Ann Foster and Edmund Jaques, a mill-overseer; lives in Hyde Park, having one child, Mildred Noyes, born in Brockton, Sept. 29, 1895—James Young, living in Dedham, born in Newburyport, March 7, 1865; married in Dedham, Oct. 11, 1894, Ada Withington Bigelow, who was born in West Boylston, May 22, 1864, to Maria Elizabeth Fuller and Henry Clay Bigelow. Both father and son are engaged in the insurance business.

#### KINSMAN ATKINSON.

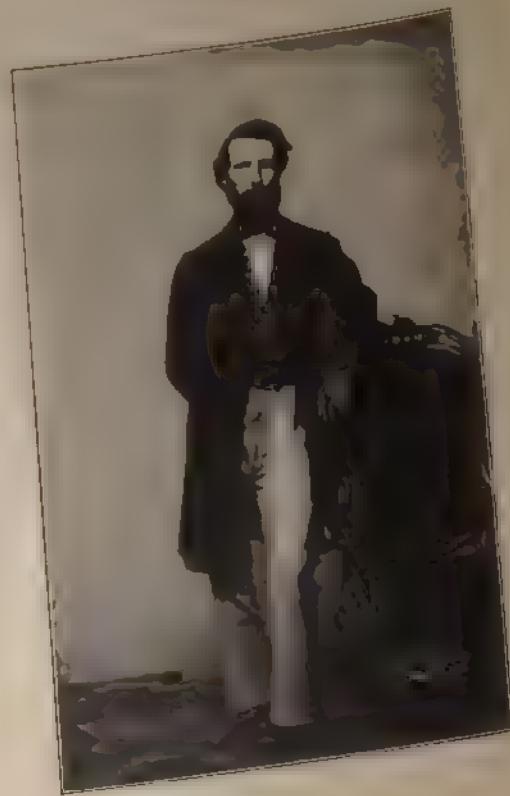
Rev. Kinsman Atkinson taught one term of eleven weeks in the fall of 1849. His tuition bills, written on paper  $3\frac{7}{8}$  by 2 inches, are dated Nov. 12th, which was the end of the term, and show that tuition in common branches was three dollars.

Mr. Atkinson at the time was pastor of the local Methodist Episcopal Church and continued there two years. During the pastorate he also taught the Linebrook (Ipswich) winter school (1848-9) and the Topsfield North winter school (1849-50). While pastor of this church, he bought land for a parsonage; he then circulated a paper himself for funds for the house; he then collected the money and built the house; and lastly presented the parsonage to the trustees of



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WANIEL C GOOD NBY

the society. He was known as a man of great energy, quick to discover a need and alert to supply it, and is remembered with gratitude and great respect.

Mr. Atkinson was born at Buxton, Me., to John and Olive (Haley) Atkinson, Oct. 16, 1807; and died at Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 23, 1888. He was one of twelve children; at six years, removing with his parents to Eaton, N. H. In 1825, he studied at Fryeburg Academy, Me.; in 1826, at Atkinson Academy, N. H., and that year taught in Wrenham. He finished his preparation for college at Phillips (Andover) Academy, and entered Bowdoin College in 1831; he joined the junior class in Harvard in 1833, where he graduated in 1834. He studied divinity (as it used to be called) at Andover, and Dr. Leonard Woods, professor in the institution, paid him the high tribute: "Kinsman Atkinson is a young man of refined feelings, ardent piety, and the best scholar in his class." He was ordained a Congregationalist in 1838, but after five years service, changed his views of church government and joined the M. E. church. From 1858 to 1860, he was a supernumerary and after 1861 superannuate, when he made Cambridge his home. His neighbors said of him: "He always aims to do right"; others say, "We are convinced that he loved the Lord with all his might, mind, and strength, and his neighbors as himself."

#### JESSE ALLISON WILKINS.

Mr. Wilkins taught the Academy, the spring and summer terms of 1850, teaching the Topsfield Center Grammar school the preceding winter and the one following.

He was born at Middleton, Mass., Sept. 10, 1830, the eighth child and fourth son in a family of thirteen children. His parents were James Wilder and Betsey (Smith) Wilkins. His mother was a devout Christian and helpful in church and society. His father was a farmer, who made home happy, his lands productive, and was held in excellent repute among his people, so that he practiced almost every office in their gift. In his seventy-sixth year he was elected to represent his district in the state legislature.

Jesse Wilkins attended the public school of his town, and

during his twelfth summer the Topsfield Academy, under the patronage of his uncle Dr. George Sawyer, of Boxford, who boarded him and paid his tuition. His father gave him "his time" when he was fifteen years of age. He assumed his middle name. His first business was an employing shoemaker. While thus engaged, he experienced a change of heart, which changed his life purpose and labor.

He began to prepare for the teacher's vocation in the spring of 1846, at the Normal Academy, Westfield. He studied afterwards at Williston Seminary, Easthampton, where he finished his English course. In the spring of 1851, he entered the classical department of Phillips (Andover) Academy. From that time his course was frequently interrupted by the want of funds, and he was obliged to have recourse to his English attainments in the practice of archery. "Teaching the young idea how to shoot." How long he studied at Andover is unknown to me, he was, however, a member of the junior and middle classes. The spring and fall of 1853, he attended Phillips (Exeter) Academy.

His first school was in Beverly, the winter of 1847-8. He taught four grammar schools in Gloucester—two successive winters at Riverdale, Haskell district; then the Harbor winter school; then the Point school, and afterwards the principal grammar school at the Harbor. He was next elected to the principal school in Newbury, then to the South grammar school in Beverly, where he remained several terms—till he resolved to relinquish the profession in 1854. In 1855, he resumed his classical studies in the private school of Rev. Dr. Luther Wright, Easthampton, the first principal of Williston Seminary. The school was closed at the end of his second term, and he entered the family school of Rev. Edward Root of Williamsburg, the winter of 1856. Mr. Root accepted a call to Springfield, Ohio, and his student accepted the tuition of Rev. Dr. Gerdon Hall, Northampton. He completed his classical studies with Prof. Calvin Stone, at Andover, during the long summer vacation of 1857, and that fall entered Andover Theological Seminary. Owing to a protracted sickness, he did not graduate until 1861.

He was licensed to preach by the Essex South Association of Ministers, March 5th, 1860., Dr. J. E. Dwinell, moderator. He has had four pastorates: the First Congregational Church, Hubbardston, Mass., 1861 and 2; First Congregational Church, Woodstock, Conn., 1864 and 5; the United Churches, Chesterfield, Mass., 1867 and 8; and the First Congregational Church, North Scituate, R. I., 1868 and 9.

He continued in the ministry, till the spring of 1871, when he was completely broken by nervous prostration. Repeated efforts to recuperate proved unavailing, and he sought the open air, an active pursuit, a quieter and less exacting life, and became an independent farmer. He located in Woodstock, Conn.; his health is precarious, but he is able most of the time to attend to the duties of his farm.

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE PERIOD OF GREATEST ACTIVITY.

GEORGE CONANT AND J. W. HEALY.

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Israel Rea and Benjamin P. Adams were chiefly instrumental in the reopening of the Academy under the tuition of Mr. George Conant, in 1852. Tuition bills are extant, dated June 29, and Oct. 5, 1852, and July 7, and Oct. 5, 1853. The first term of 1853, began Jan. 19, and continued twelve weeks. Miss Lovering was preceptress in 1852, and Miss S. F. Nichols and Miss Mary Anne Friend of Georgetown in 1853.

The school prospered greatly under Mr. Conant. Its old-time reputation and activity returned. There were the Debating Club, the Young Men's League, and dramatic exhibitions, which excited great local interest and much favorable comment. The debates were participated in by the citizens as if they were students again. The interests of school and people seemed identical, and all gained pleasure and profit. Mr. Conant was apt in his management of the school, in his methods of teaching, and in his planning and conducting the public exhibitions. Miss Nichols was an accomplished scholar and belonged to a prominent family in Lowell. She was a recent graduate. Miss Lovering was much older and was employed more as a music teacher than as a teacher of general branches. Miss Friend whom he married in the fall of 1853, was daughter of John Friend and born in Andover, in 1829. She was reared in Boxford, and taught school in Georgetown. Her writings, both prose and verse "were much admired."

Miss Friend became his wife in the fall of 1853, before his last term. She taught with him about twenty-nine years, and died very suddenly in Alexandria, N. Y. After leaving Topsfield they were principal and preceptress of

Hanover Academy, Plymouth County, after which they removed to Ohio, where they taught seventeen years. He was superintendent of schools and she taught in the High school. They afterward taught successively in Kenosha, Wis., Buffalo, N. Y., and Aurora, near Buffalo, for seven years.

Mr. Conant was born at Provincetown, Mass., May 8, 1827. His father was Rufus Conant, a merchant in Sandwich for thirty years. He was educated mainly by himself, attending an academy only a few terms. While he lived at Lyme, N. H.—a few years about 1840-45—he was a playmate with Judge C. C. Conant, now of Greenfield, Mass. By a sad accident he lost an eye when a small child. He was a fine scholar, medium height, and blue-eyed. He had a younger brother Rufus, who was of Farnsworth & Conant, lawyers, Court st., Boston, and who died March 17, 1880, leaving a widow, who now resides at Brookline.

Mr. Conant has furnished us with the following very modest yet pleasing account of himself:—

"I taught my first school in the wilds of New Hampshire, in the winter of '43 and '44. I was then between 16 and 17 years of age. Six inches of snow lay on the ground the day I opened school, Oct. 22, and it never fully left the ground during the sixteen weeks of the session. I received two dollars a week and "boarded round." The good mothers put the schoolmaster in the best room and bed, without a fire, ice and frost often sparkling in the candle-light on the walls. He thawed out the icy sheets with his warm young blood, and was ready to rise and enjoy a solid breakfast with the family before daylight. Often the snow was so deep and the distance to the school-house so great, that the big sled used for hauling wood was turned over, five or six rollicking girls and boys piled on with their well-filled dinner pails, a yoke of oxen hitched on, and with the snow up to the horned animals noses, they ploughed their slow cold way to the school-house amid the pranks and laughter of the living freight.

Fifty years afterward exactly, I visited that neighborhood, hunted for some relic of the "little red school house", but did not only fail to find some reminder of the old building, but had difficulty even in locating the site; for trees a foot in diameter stood where I a-half-century before, had "wielded

the birch." In my poem entitled "The District School of Fifty Years Ago," I find the following lines on "Boarding Round."

The contract with each teacher then  
Was "so much a month and found ;"  
The finding in those early days  
Was known as "Boarding Round."

How oft the "Master" wished he'd never  
Had a calling so renowned,  
Made to sit in the chimney corner,  
A kind of oracle "Boarding Round."

Six hours labor in the school-room,  
Ten hours in the grind-stone ground !  
What a place to practice patience,  
As he went circling, "Boarding Round."

He *must* have iron-clad "digesters,"  
He must feelings never wound,  
And be a walking cyclopedia  
In every house, while "Boarding Round."

Obliged to smile and pet the peevish,  
Whom 'twould have suited him to pound,  
He had to flatter all the mothers,  
Or else he couldn't "Board Around."

Called to sing when he'd be sighing,  
And as a victim to be crowned ;  
Not with plaudits but with outcries,  
"Awful nice" 'twas, "Boarding Round !"

Many a "school-marm" of that old-time,  
Was like a pack-horse broken down,  
Carrying loads by day and night-time,  
As she plodded "Boarding Round."

Perfumed by the kitchen frying,  
Stunned by noises as she frowned,  
Frozen in the icy bed-rooms,  
"Awful nice" 'twas, "Boarding Round !"

Yet teachers' places ne'er went begging,  
Two dollars weekly, the teacher found,  
No rest or surcease for the weary,  
Yet awful nice 'twas, "Boarding Round!"

Before I commenced on annual school-work I had taught five winter schools: in Lyme and Nashua, N. H.; in Marion, Melrose, and Westport Point, Mass. The first yearly position was at Westport Point, and the second at Fall River, Mass. Then I took charge of Topsfield Academy for two years. Without specifying other fields of labor, I will say in brief, I was six years as Principal in annual schools, seventeen years as superintendent of City schools, and nineteen years as Principal of Academies.

Miss Mary Anne Friend, of Georgetown, was my last assistant in Topsfield. She became my wife in 1853 and taught with me twenty-nine years. She was an accomplished and thorough teacher, a writer and a poet. She excelled as a mathematician and teacher of Latin and French. She could shower figures on the black-board with either hand, and at times cipher with both hands at a time, an accomplishment seldom witnessed. She died suddenly of heart disease in Alexandria, N. Y., Feb. 18, 1883. I have for the past five years resided in Pasadena, California, and expect to make it my permanent home. I gave up teaching in 1892, having been in the school-room nearly forty-five years."

Mr. Conant is a member of the Southern California Academy of Science. He travels extensively, and is correspondent for the State Press Association of California.

JOSEPH WARREN HEALY.

J. W. Healy, A. B., succeeded Mr. Conant. He began with the summer term of 1854, and bought the property the next following vacation. His wife, Mrs. Jane C. Healy, was preceptress. He employed as his assistants, men of strong character and excellent scholarship. In 1855-6 H. J. Richardson, A. B., assisted in mathematics and natural sciences; A. J. Pike, A. B., followed him. Prof. C. P. Bronson lectured on physiology and elocution, and Prof. A. P. Shattuck taught penmanship. Among his assistant pupils were Daniel Wil-

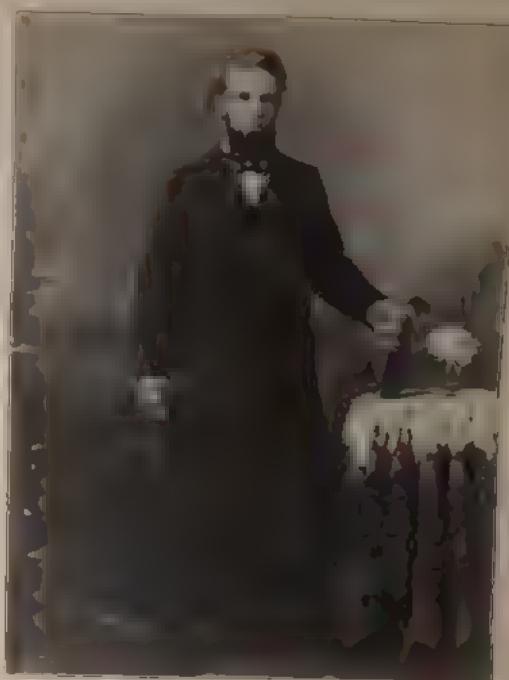
kins in mathematics; A. B. Coffin and G. L. R. Gleason in vocal music; Nelson Spofford and Susan E. Perley in English branches.

Mr. Healy's first term numbered fifty scholars; the second, sixty-nine; the third, or winter (1854-5), seventy-two; the spring, one hundred and two. During 1855-6, the students numbered two hundred and three, ladies ninety-two, gentlemen one hundred and eleven; in classics fifty-two, in English one hundred and ninety-seven; summer term seventy-five, fall term one hundred, winter term ninety-eight, spring term one hundred and sixteen. It seemed as if the school had at last eaten of the tree of life and would live forever.

He revised and enlarged the course of study and adapted it to existing needs. He established two departments, Classical and English, and made "the course," three years, of four terms each. His classical course, arranged for mental discipline, led directly into New England college life. His English course provided for the needs of the business community, and embraced studies in moral science and social culture. The government was eminently parental. Tuition in common English branches was \$4.00 per term, in higher English \$5.00, and in the languages \$1.00 each, extra.

The government is thus aptly mirrored in Mrs. Morgan's reminiscences: "Mr. Healy was quite remarkable for his punning propensity, as a mode of punishment, and woe be to the unlucky student, who received a reprimand in that way. In the lower room, desks opened with a lid, which, when raised, shielded the scholar from observation, giving a fine opportunity for cabilistic signs with fingers and face, but the 'old high desk,' reached by four steps, was the greatest torture. For some misdemeanor, the Preceptor, with the blandest smile, would request the offender to occupy the chair at his side; then while a recitation was in progress, he would draw the attention of the whole school to the recreancy, with his facetious remarks, causing a roar of merriment. Oh! what refined torture to sensitive nerves, but salutary in its effect. Government was good, and pupils were always interested in his mode of teaching, which was quite original, 'presenting old truths in a new dress.'"





REV. JOSEPH WARREN HEALY

Every Wednesday afternoon was devoted to rhetorical exercises. Original compositions were read by the ladies, and declamations or compositions rendered by the gentlemen. Mrs. Morgan here remarks, "During those years when more than a hundred pupils responded to the roll-call, it was a trying ordeal for a young man to deliver his "maiden speech," and the ladies' presence proffered no overtures of sympathy, but rather added to his discomfiture by smiles and suppressed laughter. In the Lyceum, the tables were turned, and the gentlemen had the advantage, their laughter was outright and hearty."

The Lyceum, so popular and effective during Mr. Conant's principalship, was revived. Live questions were discussed, and it was a parliament in government. Kimball, Gleason, Wiley, Clark, Pierce, Hardy, Wilkins, Merriam, Harvey, Pearson, Towne, Porter, Rea, Balch, Stowe, Newell, Dodge, Fowler, Ames, Rollins, and others we cannot now recall, were the Websters, Clays, and Henrys of the occasion.

Besides the Lyceum, each yearly and semi-annual examination closed with an exhibition. The exhibitions were anticipated with great interest by students and citizens alike. They were planned to entertain the people. They were of high character, morally and intellectually. They were the best effort of the originators and actors. The lyceums were not alone confined to the students; citizens were invited, and many a civilian engaged in the "war of words," and many a spectator enjoyed the forensic efforts and the mirth. The practice was a strong one; it brought the two together, and a sympathy between the school and the people sprung up, of mutual benefit. Here, too, the ladies participated. If the efforts of the gentlemen were golden, the papers prepared by the ladies for the occasions were jewels in gold-settings. They were filled with solid thought, with wit and wisdom, and sparkled with merriment. They added much or most, to the enjoyment and success of the occasions.

They prepared a paper each week. Before us is a copy of the Iris and two copies of the Excelsior. Iris No. 4, says "the number of our subscribers is continually increasing"—a phrase which if original with the Iris and had been patented would have made a millionaire of the editor, for

every publisher uses it now. One of the correspondents had a dream, in which a stationer's show-window was exhibited to him with ink in it that would write on any subject without the penman's thought, except that he choose the ink adapted. He tried some—"Sniggs' Sublime Ink"—with this result:—

#### THE TEMPEST CLOUD.

"Behold yon monster black as night,  
On cloudy pinions swift he comes ;  
He rends the oak with lightning bright—  
Those thorns and firey-forked tongues.  
His bellowing strikes the earth with fear,  
All nations tremble at the sight.  
How weep the skies when he is near !  
The mountains reel and rock with fright !"

The next was "Sniggs' Love Ink."

"Fair Julia, smile on me again,  
Nay, do not wear that look of scorn ;  
Bid hope within my bosom reign,  
Bid joy return and doubt begone.  
Take back those cruel, cruel words  
That thou so hastily hast spoken ;  
Let not the heart that beats for thee—  
For thee alone, be rudely broken."

*The Iris* being a model family paper, of course had a children's column.

#### CONUNDRUMS.

What street is particularly attractive to a certain young gentleman of our school? Bradstreet. [Though ordinarily a hard question, hardly a scholar could Dodge the correct answer as given.]

Who buys algebra by the cent's worth? S. Noyes.

Who trades in old boots and neck stocks? Perley, Dodge, Jenniss & Co.

The Excelsior was edited by Miss Charlotte E. Perkins. These articles are particularly good: "Education," "The Use

of Tobacco," and "Slavery." Here are a couple of conundrums: "What young man is likely to be in great demand the coming winter? Cole (coal). A certain young lady has a warlike spirit—why? She's in favor of Killam.

Here is one of the propositions from Dorman's Moral Geometry: *Theorem*—Truth in a very low place is falsehood. First let it be admitted that all the old proverbs are true. Then submit: "Truth cannot be hid, though it lies in a well." Extending the "figure," we see that in times of great danger, a man may lie if so disposed. Q. E. D. *Corollary*—Truth is an elastic substance, from the fact that men can stretch true stories.

I am favored with an order of examination. These were usually interspersed with rhetorical exercises and occupied two or three days.

The last days of the term, May 12-13, 1856, were occupied with compositions, by Misses E. C. Batchelder, S. A. Low, M. E. Jones, M. Hale, E. A. Hood, C. Rogers, R. P. Perley, C. A. Perkins, R. E. Emerson, L. M. Bixby, C. E. Perkins, C. M. Low, E. G. Dorman, and E. A. A. Rea; and with orations by gentlemen, D. S. Balch, S. P. Fowler, C. Newell, H. B. Putnam, S. A. Merriam, H. G. Rollins, H. S. Clark, G. LeR. Gleason, and George Pierce, Jr. The subjects are not given.

The exercises in the evening were in the Congregational church and consisted of invocation, address by Rev. Mr. Dwinell, of Salem, poem by S. J. Pike, Esq., of Lawrence, which were interspersed with music by Wales' Serenade and Quadrille Band.

"Rev. Joseph Warren Healy, D. D., was born in South Hero, Vt., April 11, 1827, to Nathaniel and Jane (Tabor) Healy. He fitted for college at Newbury Seminary and Bradford Academy, Vt. He graduated at the University of Vermont in 1852. He was principal of the Bath Academy, N. H., before coming to Topsfield. While teaching at Topsfield, he supplied the pulpit of the Linebrook (Ipswich) church, perhaps two years. The Linebrook society made him a life member of the Foreign Missionary Society, April 10, 1856. The church and society under his guidance, enjoyed a period of harmony and prosperity, and grew in numbers and healthful strength. While at Topsfield he at-

tended lectures at the Andover Theological Seminary, and was licensed by the Salem Congregational Association. Leaving the Academy, he preached at Royalston, Gardner and Walpole. Then removing to the West, he preached six years in Milwaukee, and four years in Chicago. While there he was called to the pastorate and presidency of Straight University, in New Orleans, La. There he attended medical lectures and received the medical degree. In 1871, Olivet College, Mich., conferred upon him the doctorate of divinity. He was also an LL. D.\* In 1871, he was delegated by the American Missionary Association to visit Great Britain and organize an auxiliary to that society. He resided in London as its secretary for three years. While abroad, he visited the continent and the East, and lectured in the principal cities of Great Britain. Returning home he was elected professor of English literature and pastoral theology in Maryville College, Tenn. Preferring an active pastorate to the routine of professional life, he returned to Milwaukee in 1878. The death of his wife prostrated him. Subsequently he went to California for his health. In 1883, he was a pastor in Oakland, Cal. Upon the incorporation of Sierre-Madre College, at Pasadena, in 1884, he was selected as the president. Subsequent to 1885, he retired from the ministry, resided in San Diego, Cal., and latterly practised medicine."

\*For the purpose of the General Catalogue of his *Alma Mater*, it was thought necessary to know the source and date of his title LL. D., and the date of his title M. D. About twenty-five communications are before me relative to its source and their dates. They all rest upon memory, and agree wonderfully in regard to the time, yes, and source also. The words of Gen. Chas. H. Howard and Rev. E. M. Strieby, D. D., who were quite familiar with his work in New Orleans, are as pertinent as any.

Gen. Howard says:

"My impression is strong that the title LL. D., was given Dr. Healy by Straight University, at the time of his going to Europe." Later he wrote:—"I remember that Dr. Healy had the degree conferred upon him, about the time he went abroad to reside in London, and that is about all I know concerning the matter."

Dr. Strieby writes:

"The vague impression on my mind is that he obtained this degree, with several other honorary titles, such as F. R. S., etc., in Great Britain. Of this I am not sure. It is barely possible they may have been given to him by the S. U." \* \* \* \* "Yet, I fear that nothing will be found, for our people were then engaged in making history and not in writing it."

Mr. Healy was a diligent worker, an excellent teacher, social, genial, a ready reader of human nature, and easily made himself master. He led his school; his scholars were ambitious, diligent, social, and in the main made the most of their opportunities. He was ambitious. In whatever he engaged, he threw his entire self. Whatever he did, was well done, from principle. Every station he held he made an opening door to the next higher station. He used to say to his scholars: "Be not bent by circumstances, but bend them."\* He loved to do good, realizing that in such service was his highest honor. That idea was the inspiration of his life; and his life subserved that great end.

While preaching at Linebrook, he took one and another of his older students with him, to the religious meetings of the parish, thus introducing them into society and its service, and giving a practical turn to school life. We know of his saying "Come into the school and if the burden of the tuition is too great, it will be remitted." Whatever was money in his family was good for tuition, and many a farmer-lad thus figured out results to a fraction. Among his students, he was a whole "Lend-a-Hand" Society, judicious and efficient.

After leaving the Academy, but before going west, he united the society of Royalston, paid their church debt and repaired the church. At Walpole he enlarged the sphere and usefulness of the church and society, and solidified its strength. He was at Gardner, a preacher they praised. Coming out of the church edifice one Sunday, we heard—"That was an able discourse"—"yes, it was; I never heard that subject handled better." His society was proud of him.

In the west, he was the same scholarly, eloquent helper. In Chicago he was, under God, the organizer of twelve religious societies that built church edifices. But more, he would herald the truth from pulpit and press. He was one of the founders of *The Advance*, a paper of high rank and doctrinal authority.

\*Circumstances, on occasions, seemed to be made for him, or required but little bending. Upon hearing a rumor of Mr. Healy's death, the writer sent a missive of inquiry into his vicinity. The letter fell into his hand, when he immediately sent "a penny messenger" on which was written "Psalms 118, vs. 18 and 17. As ever thine. J. W. H."

In New Orleans, he was pastor of the First Congregational Church, and was consulted for "the benefit of his judgment in selecting points in Louisiana, for schools." During the year 1869-70, he was president of Straight University, and superintendent of church organization for Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. The next two years he was president three years in all, but was absent in Great Britain, soliciting funds for scholarships. This was his work for the A. M. A. the patron of the University.

The test of establishing churches and schools in the South just following the War of the Rebellion, was as exacting as it was noble. It required judgment and knowledge pre-eminent, tact and discretion, and, withall, a readiness of heart and hand. It was a place of dignity, learning and religious character. Mr. Healy's part was done acceptably, promptly and honorably. So well and favorably was he known and appreciated among the literati, that there was power in the mention of his name.

Rev. D. W. Hanna, president of Los Angeles College, says of Sierra-Madre College, Pasadena, of which Dr. Healy was president:—"A liberal grant was made for it, a good school building was erected, and the site was admirable; but Pasadena did not prove attractive—it seemed impossible to awaken adequate enthusiasm. The school numbered from thirty to fifty students. It was started under the leadership of Rev. J. W. Ellis, D. D., of San Francisco. Shortly after the college opened, the board of trustees elected Dr. Healy, who was then pastor of the Presbyterian Church, at Santa Monica, to the presidency, *for the influence of his name*. Dr. Healy's health was then very poor, and he did not occupy the office, nor change his residence, nor take any active part in the college work. He resigned at the end of his year, 1884-5, and Prof. J. M. Coyner presided. The doctor was in no way responsible for the college. It continued about two years; the building is now a private residence." Mr. Hanna spoke very highly of Dr. Healy's work at Santa Monica.

He married, Oct. 8, 1848, Miss Jane Hibbard Clark, who was born in Groton, Vt., May 12, 1830. She studied in the Female Seminary, Burlington, Vt., taught with her husband,

at Bath and Topsfield, and adorned the place of a pastor's wife wherever he labored. She died at her mother's home in Corinth, Vt., Sept. 12, 1880, beloved and lamented, a pure and gentle spirit. Their children were Jane Corinne, who was born March 6, 1850, and died October 8, 1850; and Frank Joseph, who was born March 4, 1857; studied at Olivet College and London (England) University; was admitted to the bar, 1878; was editor of the *Gazette*, Fort Wayne, Ind., till 1884; and is now on the editorial staff of the *Tribune*, Cleveland, O.

His second wife was Mrs. Ellen R. White, widow of W. M. White, a merchant of Washington, D. C., who died there of consumption. She was Miss Young, born in Bangor, Me., Feb. 2, 1833. She became Mrs. Healy July 21, 1884, while he was preaching in Santa Monica. She has built her a home at Riverside, Cal., but will spend her summers at San Diego.

Mr. Healy preached about three years in Woodland, and Oakland, before visiting southern California. He was pastor of the Presbyterian church at Santa Monica, three years. He never recovered from the prostration following his first wife's death. He loved life and labor, and when driven by ill health from one field, he sought another field immediately upon recuperation. As a last resort, when he could no longer stand to preach, in the fall of 1886, he sought a change of air and began to practise medicine in San Diego. He died of spinal abscess, April 26, 1887, and was buried at San Diego, under imposing and solemn rites by Masons and Odd Fellows. He was paralyzed and speechless for 20 hours, a patient sufferer. Dr. Healy was an exemplary man—one of nature's noblemen. He arose by his own exertions, and achieved a grand success. His titles are emblems of his character and attainments.

The Congregational Year Book says:—"Mr. Henry Jackson Richardson was born in Middleton, Mass., June 23, 1829, to Daniel and Olive Berry (Perkins) Richardson. He fitted for college at Phillips Academy, and graduated at Amherst, in 1855, and at Andover Theological Seminary, in 1859; taught in the Topsfield Academy, 1855-6, was ordained at Lincoln, Mass., Sept. 6, 1860; and was released from active

pastoral charge, May 10, 1892. He married, June 26, 1864, Mrs. Harriet Amelia, widow of Theodore French, of Concord, N. H., and daughter of Dea. William and Abby (Reed) Colburn, of Lincoln. He died of la grippe, Dec. 19, 1893."

Rev. Alpheus Justus Pike, who was assistant to Profs. Healy and Allis, was born in Topsfield, March 7, 1828. His father was a farmer and cultivated broad fields and rich soil. He was educated at Thetford Academy, Vt., and at Dartmouth College, graduating in 1855. He studied theology at Andover, Mass., and at East Windsor, now Hartford, Conn. He was ordained and installed at Marlboro, Conn., and afterwards had successive charge of churches in Sauk Centre, Minn., and Mandan and Dawson, Dak. He has also labored for the American Missionary Association both in the United States and Great Britain. He is now located at Dwight, Dakota.

Mrs. Morgan says:—"Our respected teacher and townsman A. J. Pike, A. B., afterwards a minister, is well remembered. He was a most thorough scholar; he always carried the text books closed in his hand without the slightest thought of referring to them. In the clear, autumn evenings, he would take the class out on the hills and point out the different constellations, making our lessons in astronomy of practical value."

Prof. B. Robert Downes, Bradford, was a teacher of music during Prof. Healy's principalship and those who followed. His only business was teaching music, chiefly, it is understood, instrumental. He was always busy—"have all I can do," as he once remarked. Here Mrs. Morgan remarks:—"I must not forget Professor of music, B. R. Downes. Can we not see him passing from home to home of his pupils, swinging his cane in the air, ready to fall in repeated blows on reaching the door, then taking quiet little naps while the lessons were thrummed, always good-natured and happy."

## CHAPTER V.

OBEDIAH DICKINSON ALLIS, ALBERT IRA DUTTON,  
AND THE LAST DAYS OF THE ACADEMY.

Prof. O. D. Allis, A. M., began here with the winter term of 1856-7, and closed his services with the fall term of 1858. He continued the school in relation to the course of study, terms and tuition, as these had been adopted by Mr. Healy. The character of the school was fully sustained. A. J. Pike, A. B., assisted him in the winter term; Austin Hazen, A. B., in the spring term; L. T. Burbank, A. B., of Williams College, thereafter. Mrs. Mary A. Jones was preceptress, Miss C. M. Thurston was assistant. Prof. B. R. Downes, jr., taught piano music; G. LeR. Gleason, vocal music; and Daniel T. Ames, penmanship.

Three rhetorical programs have been loaned me. May 6, 1857, has the following orations:—Every man a debtor to his profession, by George L. Blanchard; Influence of Washington, by M. V. B. Perley; The present crisis of our country, by D. F. Towne; Athens, by S. A. Merriam; The scholar's hope, by J. G. Colt; The mind measured by its object, by G. E. Joslin; Decay an element of growth, by D. T. Ames; The influence of the age in producing great men, by G. LeR. Gleason; Eloquence of decay, by N. T. Kimball; Israel Putnam, by S. P. Fowler. Compositions were read by Misses L. Burbank, S. A. Chamberlain, H. McLoud, M. A. Hoyt, H. A. Wells, E. A. R. Towne, E. A. Putnam, H. M. Kimball, M. M. Farrar, C. F. Kimball, M. A. Dickinson, R. P. Perley, C. A. Perkins, C. E. Batchelder, and A. Rogers.

The rhetorical exercises, Nov. 11, 1857, were:—Orations—Ambition essential to great achievements, by Geo. F. Flint; Responsibility of Americans, by J. C. Leonard; The Press, by N. D. Dodge; The condition and prospects of America, by

C. A. Mooar; Arnold, the traitor, by M. H. Dorman; John Q. Adams, by J. W. Porter; Dr. Kane, by C. Fowler; Revolutions, by J. K. Cole; Earth's benefactors, by M. V. B. Perley; Earth's malefactors, by Geo. L. Blanchard; Skepticism, by D. T. Ames. The following had compositions:—Misses S. A. Chamberlin, J. K. Noyes, S. M. Ray, M. M. Thompson, M. A. Hoyt, H. E. Peabody, C. A. Berry, C. C. Peabody, M. E. Choate, R. P. Balch, R. P. Perley, E. B. Perley, A. P. Kimball, C. W. Woodbury. The program concluded with a colloquy, "Home Government," written by the students—Misses M. Low, L. D. Hardy and M. A. C. Noyes.

The rhetorical program of Nov. 10, 1858, was:—Declamation, by Hamilton Temple; Orations—Dr. Livingstone, by A. M. Merriam; Object of our mission, by J. W. Perkins; The power of knowledge, by N. D. Dodge, jr.; Enthusiasm, by C. A. Mooar; Jephtha's daughter, by Geo. F. Flint; The nobility and responsibility of the teacher's vocation, by J. K. Cole; Reform, by Clarence Fowler; Moral force the only instrument of freedom, by M. V. B. Perley; Young America, by H. G. Rollins; and the reading of the school paper, "*The Lustral Wreath*," by Misses Abbie R. Cole and Rebecca K. Bixby, Clarence Fowler, editor.

These exercises were always interspersed with music, generally by a hired orchestra, sometimes by the school talent.

Prof. Allis came to Topsfield with an experience of some seven or eight years. He was a good teacher and disciplinarian. His want of health was the only impediment to good rank among noted teachers. He was tall and slim; his configuration and movements betokened insidious disease. He had a deep voice and was an excellent bass singer. His voice was cultured and he excelled as a reader. He was a good scholar, critical in the recitation and apt in his illustrations. His manner was pleasing; his conversation, entertaining; his social life, unblamable; and remembrance of him is pleasant indeed.

Mr. Allis was born in Brookfield, Vt., July 27, 1825, to Elisha and Mary (Steele) Allis. While at home he attended the district school and the academy at Randolph. His preparation for college was completed at Thetford Academy. He entered Williams College, and during this second year re-

turned home sick, where he remained an invalid for a year. He received the honorary degree of A. M., from the University of Vermont. He taught a year in Barre Academy, under J. S. Spaulding; then at Vergennes some two or three years. While at Vergennes he married Miss Ann Eliza Colt, of Brookfield. Subsequently he taught at Chelsea perhaps four or five years; then at Topsfield. From here he went to Randolph Centre, Vt., where he preached three or four years; thence to West Randolph where he preached about five years. The state of his health was to him, all the while, a source of anxiety and expense, and an impediment in his work. At last his active life closed; in 1866 he repaired to Danielsonville, N. Y., for treatment at that noted water-cure. He died there in June, 1867, nearly forty-two years old. His disease was chronic rheumatism, culminating in congestion of the lungs. He was buried in West Randolph. Thus perished an active life, a generous heart, a noble purpose, a Christian man.

The Lyceum, so popular with Principal Conant's and Principal Healy's schools, was fully sustained during Mr. Allis' principalship. Citizens participated in and enjoyed the occasions. The students regarded it a part of their school life, and prepared for it, in the main, as for a recitation, or the weekly rhetorical exercises.

The first Lyceum of which we have any record was organized on Dec. 24, 1856. The members were J. Brown, J. Pike, A. M. Trask, E. W. Pert, A. E. Baker, T. F. Towne, J. E. Leonard, M. H. Dorman, M. V. B. Perley, C. M. Boyd, J. W. Porter, J. G. Colt, Geo. L. Blanchard, A. D. Pearson, W. T. McQuestion and James Ingalls.

Prof. Allis, principal of the school called the meeting to order. Towne was voted president, pro tem.; Colt, secretary, pro tem. Brown, Blanchard, Dorman, committee to draft constitution and by-laws. Dec. 31. Blanchard was voted president, pro tem.; Colt secretary, pro tem.; constitution and by-laws adopted. The former authorized primaries, president, vice-president, secretary; the latter, this order of business: reading minutes of last meeting, declamations, discussions, miscellaneous business, reading of school-paper, appointment of editors, readers, and judges of discussions as to force of argument.

The principal was primarius and embodied all final authority. Teachers were ex-officio members, and lady-students at their option. Male members signed constitution and by-laws and paid the bills, (perhaps 25 cents per term.) Jan. 7, 1857. Blanchard and Colt were voted again pro tem. Constitutional officers by ballot: Boyd, president; M. V. B. Perley, vice-president; Colt, secretary. Boyd and Joslin, affirmative, and Towne and Colt, negative, discussed "Is a nation justified in rising against its rulers?" and the judges gave the better argument to the affirmative. Jan. 14. Brown and Towne, affirmative, and Blanchard and Leonard, negative, discussed "Does wealth exert a greater influence than education?" which was decided in the affirmative. Jan. 28. Towne and Joslin, affirmative, and A. D. Pearson and J. E. Pike, negative: "Are railroads an advantage or disadvantage to a country?" The affirmative won.

Spring term, 1857. March 11. Members: D. T. Ames, G. A. Ames, J. C. Colt, J. W. Porter, G. L. Blanchard, S. P. Fowler, jr., C. M. Boyd, A. D. Pearson, G. E. Joslin, S. A. Merriam, N. T. Kimball, M. V. B. Perley. D. T. Ames was voted president; S. P. Fowler, jr., vice-president; G. E. Joslin, secretary. Pearson declaimed. Kimball and Fowler, affirmative, and Porter and Perley, negative: "Resolved, that the mariner's compass has been more beneficial to man than the printing press." Negative won. March 16. Blanchard and Perley declaimed. Fowler and Boyd, affirmative, and Gleason and Colt, negative: "Is a man the arbiter of his own fortune?" Affirmative won. Misses Batchelder and Perley read "The Iris," A. D. Pearson, editor. March 23. Colt and Gleason declaimed. Porter and Joslin, affirmative, and G. A. Ames and Towne, negative: "Was Washington a greater man than Columbus?" Affirmative won. March 30. Pearson declaimed. Blanchard and D. T. Ames, affirmative, and Merriam and Gleason, negative: "Should non-intervention be the policy of the U. S.?" Affirmative prevailed. Misses Thurston and Rogers read "The Iris," G. A. Ames, editor. April 6. Perley and Joslin declaimed. Fowler and Towne, affirmative, and Kimball and Porter, negative: "Should the sale of intoxicating liquors be prohibited by law?" April 13. G. A. Ames and Gleason, affirmative, and H. O. Wiley,

negative: "Is the progress of the present age greater than that of past ages?" Affirmative won. Misses E. F. and H. M. Kimball read "The Iris," Gleason, editor. April 20. Kimball and Porter, affirmative, and Joslin and Towne, negative: "Is ambition the cause of more good than evil?" Misses Chamberlain and Farrar read "The Iris." April 27. Fowler and Long declaimed. Porter and Kimball, affirmative, and Gleason and D. T. Ames, negative: "Is a republican form of government more stable than a monarchical one?" Misses Wells and Towne read "The Iris," Perley, editor.

Winter term, 1857-8. Dec. 3. Members: J. W. Porter, D. F. Towne, M. H. Dorman, W. L. Putnam, G. H. Peabody, A. F. Smith, A. A. Fowler, C. W. Peart, J. N. Smith, S. T. J. Byam, L. W. Green, W. S. Merrill, B. A. Shute, P. S. Farnsworth, J. A. Friend, G. D. Richards, C. Porter, J. R. Jackson, Jos. Ridgway, E. F. Esty, H. Temple, M. A. Kent, L. L. Robbins, E. F. Creesy, A. M. Merriam, H. L. Long, J. H. Towne, S. Fuller, J. C. Bancroft, D. G. Upton, N. A. Pike, J. Swinerton, W. H. Preston, W. P. Hutchinson, S. Noyes. J. W. Porter was voted president, pro tem.; Dorman, secretary, pro tem.; Dorman, D. F. Towne, W. L. Putnam, a committee on constitution and by-laws. Dec. 9, constitution and by-laws were adopted. J. W. Porter was voted president; D. F. Towne, vice-president; M. H. Dorman, secretary. Dec. 16. Dorman and Shute declaimed. Putnam and Green, affirmative, and Dorman and Noyes, negative: "Is a skillful politician better fitted for a president of the U. S. than a skillful general?" Affirmative was victor. Dec. 23. Jackson and J. W. Porter declaimed. J. W. Porter and Farnsworth, affirmative, and Ridgway and Peabody, negative: "Is the fear of punishment a greater incentive to exertion than the hope of reward?" Valorous, affirmative! Misses Peabody and A. P. Kimball read "The Iris," Dorman, editor. Dec. 30. Town and Shute declaimed. W. L. Putnam and Robbins, affirmative, and Noyes and Jackson, negative: "Does the constitution of these U. S. conflict with American slavery?" Valorous, negative! Jan. 6. Farnsworth and Dorman declaimed. S. Fuller and A. F. Smith, affirmative, and Dorman and Ridgway, negative: "Is a republican government better to live under than a monarchy?" Negative won.

Jan. 13, 1858. Friend, Putnam, C. Porter declaimed. Pope and Dorman, affirmative, and D. F. Towne and W. L. Putnam, negative: "Is novel reading deleterious to the public mind?" Jan. 27. C. Porter and Putnam declaimed. Ridgway and Dorman, affirmative, and Swinerton and W. L. Putnam, negative: "Is man the arbiter of his own fortune?" Negative won. Misses Woodbury and Low read "The Iris," Pope, editor. Feb. 10. Farnsworth, Green, J. W. Porter, Temple, Dorman declaimed. Pope and C. Porter, affirmative, and J. W. Porter and Temple negative: "Has science accomplished more than physical strength?" Affirmative won. Misses Thurston and E. F. Kimball read "The Iris," D. F. Towne, editor.

Spring term, 1858. Feb. 22. Members: D. F. Ames, C. A. Mooar, Geo. L. Blanchard, L. L. Robbins, H. Temple, J. Ridgway, J. R. Jackson, Asbury Osgood, Myron R. Hutchinson, J. E. Leonard, J. C. Lavalette, J. K. Cole, N. D. Dodge, B. Alward Shute, J. Wright Perkins, S. Noyes, M. V. B. Perley. D. T. Ames was voted moderator, pro tem.; C. Fowler, secretary, pro tem.; and D. F. Towne, Perley, C. Fowler, a committee on constitution and by-laws. Blanchard was chosen editor of "The Iris." J. K. Cole and J. E. Leonard were chosen president and vice-president for one week. March 1. Constitution and by-laws were adopted. C. Fowler and Leonard, affirmative, and N. D. Dodge and Mooar, negative: "Is the pen mightier than the sword?" Affirmative won. Misses Kimball and Towne read "The Iris," Blanchard, editor. Permanent officers: Ridgway, secretary; J. K. Cole, president; G. L. Blanchard, vice-president. March 8. Meech and Mooar declaimed. Blanchard and D. T. Ames, affirmative, and C. Fowler and Jackson, negative: "Which exerts the greater influence in the world, man or woman?" Affirmative won. Misses Noyes read "The Iris." March 15. Blanchard and Lavalette declaimed. Leonard and D. T. Ames, affirmative, and Dodge and Cole, negative: "Are the works of nature more admired than the works of art?" Affirmative carried the argument. Misses Cole and Lamson read "The Iris." March 22. Leonard and Jackson declaimed. Perley and Ridgway, affirmative, and Robbins and A. H. Meech, negative: "Does wealth exert a greater

influence than education?" Affirmative won. Misses Cushing and Perkins read "The Iris," March 29. Temple and Hutchinson declaimed. Noyes and Mooar, affirmative, and Lavalette and Jackson, negative: "Has the mariner's compass been of more benefit to man than the printing-press?" Negative won. April 5. J. W. Perkins and D. T. Ames, affirmative, and Blanchard and ——, negative: "Are political parties beneficial to a State?" Affirmative conquered. "The Iris" was postponed and Henry G. Rollins, of Groveland, lectured on "The intelligent and enterprising American." April 12. Perkins and Cole declaimed. Cole and J. W. Porter, affirmative, and Ridgway and Leonard, negative: "Was Wellington a greater man than Bonaparte?" Affirmative won. Misses Adams and Ober read "The Iris." Cole, editor.

(Several pages are here missing)

Fall term, 1859. Sept. 11. Members: Hamilton Temple, Bartlett H. Weston, Geo. E. Weaver, J. Welch Porter, Edward B. Putnam, J. W. Perkins, Wm. H. Dalton. Porter was voted president; Temple, scribe; Geo. T. Welch, vice-president. Appointments: Geo. E. Warner, to declaim; Perkins, affirmative, and Weston, negative: "Should we obey a law which we think to be morally wrong?" Minnie L. Putnam and Hattie Dorman, readers, and Welch, editor. Sept. 21. Warner declaimed; Perkins and Weston discussed, and "judged in the negative." Oct. 5. John W. Porter and E. B. Putnam declaimed. Warner, affirmative, and Welch, negative: "Is the mind of woman inferior to that of man?" Negative had the argument. Misses Hattie Dorman and Minnie L. Putnam read "The Topsfield News," Welch, editor. Oct. 12. Misses Reed and Weston read "The News," Flint, editor. Edward E. Putnam was tried for and found guilty of the murder of Sparticus. He was sentenced to be hanged by the arms till the rope broke "The execution occupied just one second." Oct. 19. Misses Fairfield and Eaton read "The News," Perkins, editor. Perkins, affirmative, and Porter, negative: "Is the hope of reward a greater incentive than the fear of punishment?" Nov. 2. Otis F. Dodge, affirmative, and Geo. E. Nichols, negative: "Re-

solved, that wealth exerts a greater influence than education?" Affirmative won. Misses Howe and Fairfield read "The Latural Wreath," J. W. Perkins, editor.

Spring term, 1860. Feb. 29. Constitution of 1856 was adopted. J. Adams was chosen president; Jos. P. Wonson, secretary. March 7. "An eloquent discussion:"—J. W. Perkins, B. Weston, Otis F. Dodge, affirmative, and —— Gen.— Cole, J. P. Wonson, negative: "Resolved, that the so-called strikes now being made by the shoemakers of surrounding towns will be a benefit?" Otis F. Dodge was chosen president; John W. Perkins, vice-president; Jos. P. Wonson, secretary.

Mrs. Mary Amanda Jones, preceptress, was educated at Newbury Seminary, Vermont. She came to this school a talented and finely educated teacher. Her gentle manners and kindly disposition won the respect of all, and the love of those in her immediate care. She was tall, and a lady of commanding figure, which, supplemented by her gentle manners, gave her a presence remarkably suggestive of Virgil's "*quæ incedo regina.*" She remained with the school till the close of the year 1858-9.

Mrs. Jones was born in Sutton, Vt., July 5, 1830, to Phoebe Fletcher and Rev. Elisha Brown. She married, Oct. 20, 1852, Edwin Alonzo Jones, M. D., and two years later was left a widow. For twelve years thereafter she was engaged in teaching in public schools and high-grade seminaries, at Springfield, Vt., Amenia, N. Y., Topsfield and Auburndale, Mass.

After leaving Auburndale, she married, in Berlin, Vt., July 22, 1866, Rev. Rodney Howland Howard, D. D., of the N. E. Conference, and pastor of the M. E. Church, in Monson, Mass. She died in Franklin, Mass., April 12, 1892.

Dr. Howard married, second, Mrs. Susan Cheney Jones, widow of Loren Washburn Jones, merchant, West Somerville, and daughter of Adolphus and Susan (Tenney) Tenney, undertaker and dealer in furniture, Windsor, Vt. Dr. Howard died Jan. 3, 1897.

Lysander T. Burbank was an assistant to Mr. Allis during the summer term of 1857.

Mr. Burbank was born in Fitzwilliam, N. H., Nov. 24,





MR AND MRS AUST N HAZEN

1828, to John and Hannah (Lyon) Burbank. His father was a farmer. He graduated at Williams College, 1857, and at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, 1860. He married Sarah Susannah Van Vlack of New York City, and in July of the same year he sailed from Boston under appointment as missionaries of the A. B. C. F. M., to Turkey, on the barque Smyrniole, for Smyrna, laden with a cargo of New England rum, and missionaries as passengers, arriving at Bitlis in Oct., 1860. They gave up their foreign work finally on account of ill-health, and returned to America in 1870. The work in Turkey resulted in establishing several flourishing churches and schools, and in training young men and women for teachers and preachers, and correlative labor. He says, "it was the greatest trial of my life to leave that blessed work." In his preparation for the work he attended a course of medical lectures in New York City, and also dispensary practice, receiving "A Certificate of Honor," conferring the title of Dr.

He became pastor of a church in Herndon, Va., in 1871; removing in 1880 to Georgetown, Neb., to become pastor of the Burr Oak Presbyterian church. He was there in 1890.

They have (1890) six children living. One reposes in Bitlis, dying Jan., 1864; another in Herndon, dying July, 1874. Their oldest, Frederic L., is an M. D., and practicing in Hooper, Neb., and the oldest daughter, Mary S., married David Montgomery, a graduate of Hastings College and engaged in Y. M. C. A. work, but hoping to go a missionary to China.

Austin Hazen, Prof. Allis's assistant, was born in Hartford, Vt., Feb. 14, 1835, to Rev. Austin and Lucia (Washburn) Hazen. He went with his father's family to Berlin, at the age of three years. He fitted for college at home and at St. Johnsbury Academy, graduating at the University of Vermont, Burlington, in 1855. Taught one year in Barre Academy, and graduated at the Theological Seminary, Andover, Mass., in 1859. During his first year at Andover he taught the spring term of the Topsfield Academy. Mr. Allis was an invalid and the work of the principal came mostly upon Mr. Hazen. After graduation, he preached at Norwich, Vt., from 1859 to 1864; then at Jericho Centre, Vt., from 1864

to 1884. He began to preach also in Richmond, Vt., in 1875. In 1884, he removed to Richmond, where he completed his life work. He was two years superintendent of schools in Norwich, and two in Jericho. His sickness was long and painful, and though accompanied by severe sufferings caused by repeated attempts of the surgeons to bring relief, he uttered no word of complaint. He died May 22, 1895, while on a passage to Europe, and was buried at sea, in the bosom of "old gray ocean."

He married Feb. 12, 1862, Mary Jane Carleton, who was born in October, 1840, to Mary Wheeler and David Carleton, a farmer, of Barre, Vt. She died April 18, 1880, in Jericho Centre. He married, 2nd, in Keeseville, N. Y., June 1, 1881, Almira Farrington Elliot, who was born Feb. 21, 1838, to Eliza Hall and Ezra Elliot, a farmer, of Croydon, N. H.

His first wife was mother of all his children, seven sons and one daughter, Mary Carleton, who was born July 20, 1875, and died the next January. The seven sons have graduated in the course in arts at the University of Vermont. Four have graduated from the Hartford, Ct., Theological Seminary and are in the Congregational ministry. Austin, born Sept. 20, 1863, who received the seminary fellowship for two years' study in Germany, 1893 to 1895; Carleton, born June 14, 1865; Frank William, born Jan. 7, 1869, and William, born Nov. 3, 1870. Two are physicians. Allen, born May 12, 1867, a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, and Robert, born Dec. 2, 1872, a graduate in medicine at the University of Vermont; and Tracy, born July 4, 1874, will complete his post-graduate studies in science, at Columbia College, 1899. This is a remarkable family in its obvious aspect. The father is working now in the field ready for harvest with seven-fold opportunity and power.

At college, his scholarship ranked with the best; at the seminary, he was one of the best Hebraists; as a minister, "he kept his science of religion properly in the background, but his instructions and counsels were never inconsistent with the logical framework which underlay all his thinking;" as a man, his scholarship, his utterances, his amiableness and demeanor were hardly noticed in their individuality. In this



regard he was peculiar; the traits of his character were most happily blended, no one was unduly prominent, each seemed designed to perfect the rest; his character was a constellation, like the sweet influence of the Pleiades, and cultivated friendship, molded character, inculcated principle, inspired love; and because the influence was all unconscious to giver and receiver, it was the more potent. His life though humble was forceful, and though it was circumscribed in action, it was unbounded in influence.

Charles Morgan Pierce, assisted Mr. Allis in 1857-8. He says, "Mr. Allis was the principal, but owing to his illness the school for the greater part of the year was in my hands."

Mr. Pierce was born Oct. 18, 1834, to Erastus and Sophia (Morgan) Pierce, in Hinsdale, Mass. He studied at Hinsdale Academy and graduated at Williams College in 1857. He taught in the Academy one year, 1857-8, and by reason of Mr. Allis' feeble health, sustained the burden of the school. He entered Andover Seminary with the junior class of 1858, and remained two years, when he was appointed instructor in mathematics and Latin at his Alma Mater, a position he held two years. He was licensed to preach by the Berkshire Northern Association, Oct. 29, 1860. He supplied the Congregational Church in Peru six months of 1862. He became a resident student at Andover, Oct., 1862, and became the stated supply of the West Boxford church, where he was ordained and installed Sept. 2, 1863. He was dismissed July 17, 1867, and the next September accepted the *pro tempore* professorship of mathematics in Williams College, which he held till April, 1868, supplying the while the Congregational Church at South Williamstown. He was installed at Middlefield, Mass., July 1, 1868, and resigning on account of ill-health, was dismissed July 26, 1881. He was acting pastor at Charlton, from Aug. 20, 1882, to Dec. 6, 1885; was pastor at Hardwick, from Dec. 13, 1885, to April 1, 1890, when he resigned to accept a pastorate in Auburn, where he now resides. He has published two funeral discourses, 1864, 1873.

He married in Salem, Mass., Aug. 12, 1863, Elizabeth Morse Peabody. They have one child, Charles Peabody, born Oct. 19, 1869, who is now of the class of '92 academical department, Yale University.

The following pertinent comment is by Mrs. Morgan: "Charles H. Pierce taught a year or more, as preceptor for Mr. Allis, who was in feeble health. Mr. Pierce won the esteem of all his pupils by his uniform kindness and patience. He came as an assistant and rather shrank from full charge of the school, which the Principal's illness made necessary; still his thorough knowledge of all the branches taught, and easy manners and fluent speaking, made him a very popular teacher."

"An old friend of education" wrote thus of the school for the *Salem Gazette*, in 1857:—

TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.—The Semi-Annual Examination of this successful Institution, was on Wednesday, July 15th. The writer had the pleasure of being present in the afternoon, and was highly interested. The exercises commenced with singing by the members of the school, which convinced all that there was no lack of musical talent. Declamations were then given by J. H. Byne, of Galveston, Texas; M. V. B. Perley, of Ipswich; and A. D. Pearson, of Topsfield; all of whom did credit to themselves and the school.

The Orations, with the subjects, were as follows:—The Love of Liberty, George P. Flint, North Reading; Struggles, Jefferson K. Cole, Boxford; Death, Clarence Fowler, Danvers; Mental Culture, Daniel F. Ames, Vershire, Vt.; Influence of Great Men on their Age. Henry G. Rollins, Georgetown. The Orations were creditable to their writers and the school. The last one, by H. G. Rollins, would compare favorably with the best productions of College graduates, and do honor to many men of high pretensions. Next came the reading of the paper, published by the school. The Editor, H. G. Rollins, introduced Miss Abbie Cole, of Topsfield, and Miss Mary Cushing, of Williamstown, as the readers, who interested those present, for the space of half an hour, with rich gems of thought and wit, causing many a hearty laugh.

We next listened to the reading of essays by the following ladies of the graduating class:—Cornelia M. Thurston, of Vershire, Vt.; Margaret A. Hoyt, Georgetown; Charlotte A. Perkins and Ellen F. Kimball, of Topsfield. The essays were finely written and very pleasing. The one by Miss

**Kimball, on the Marriage of the Hemispheres,** was particularly good, being written in an easy, natural style, and well read.

At the close of the exercises, Diplomas were presented to those graduating, with appropriate remarks, by the worthy and able Principal, O. D. Allis, A. M.

Topsfield Academy has a fine location, and we were happy to find the school in such a flourishing condition. Although we were told by the Principal that the past term had not been so fully attended as previous terms, yet the school was in a healthy and promising state, and as long as its present Board of Teachers remain, we have high hopes of its success.

"A friend to education" chronicled the following of the Academy in Nov., 1858:—It was our good fortune, two days last week, to attend the quarterly examination of the Topsfield Academy, and it was very pleasant for us to witness the appearance of success, which crowned the labor of the teachers and students. The degree of proficiency exhibited by the classes in Greek, Latin and French, was highly creditable, but the rhetorical Exercise, which was during the afternoon of Wednesday, was particularly interesting. The exercise consisted of Orations from a large part of the gentlemen, and the reading of the Laurel Wreath, a literary journal consisting mostly of compositions from the ladies of the Institution. The order of the exercises was as follows:—

Orations were delivered by A. M. Merriam, subject, "Dr. Livingstone;" J. W. Perkins, subject, "Objects of our Mission;" N. D. Dodge, Jr., subject, "The Power of Knowledge;" C. A. Mooar, subject, "Enthusiasm;" G. F. Flint, subject, "Jephtha's Daughter;" J. K. Cole, subject, "The Nobility and Responsibility of the Teacher's Vocation;" Clarence Fowler, subject, "Reform;" M. V. B. Perley, subject, "Moral Force the only Instrument of Freedom;" H. G. Rollins, subject, "Young America." Music, of a high order, was listened to, consisting of pieces sung by a select choir, between the delivery of the Orations. After the speaking, the "Laurel Wreath," edited by Clarence Fowler, was read by the Editresses, Miss Abbie R. Cole, and Miss Rebecca K. Bixby. The contributions to the paper displayed marked talent, and were highly creditable to the ladies. The style

in which the orations were written, and delivered, showed that the gentlemen had talent, which might be profitably cultivated. The one entitled "Jephtha's Daughter," was spoken in such a manner, that we could almost seem to see the Maiden kneeling before the Chief of Israel, to receive her death-blow; and another entitled, "The Nobility and Responsibility of the Teacher's Vocation," contained thoughts which all teachers might well think of. The oration of Mr. Perley displayed much "Moral Force," both in diction, and delivery, and that of Mr. Rollins, reminded us forcibly that "Young America" *had* honorably exerted himself, in thought and speech.

We regret to learn that the highly-esteemed Principal, Mr. Allis, and the Preceptress, Miss Brooks, an inestimable teacher, are called to another field of action. We understand that Mr. A. I. Dutton, an experienced teacher, is to take charge of the Academy, in the place of Mr. Allis. We recommend all who take an interest in institutions of the kind, to patronize Mr. Dutton, who appears a stranger in Topsfield, and a laborer in the noblest of all causes, the Improvement of the Mind.

ALBERT IRA DUTTON.

Prof. A. I. Dutton followed Principal Allis. He began with the winter term of 1858-9, and taught five consecutive terms. During his first year he had one hundred and twenty-one students, with an average per term of forty-nine. Mrs. Mary A. Jones was his preceptress and Miss Helen A. Reed, assistant. J. W. Porter and J. B. Putnam were assistants the summer term of 1859; Geo. F. Flint and Miss Lucie R. Weston the fall term of the same year. Prof. Downes, jr., gave instruction on the piano. Miss Sarah D. McMillan, a graduate of Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, N. H., and an experienced teacher, succeeded Mrs. Jones' resignation, at the end of the year 1858-9. About 1860, commercial colleges began, and local high schools, with their attractions and advantages, more or less real. Georgetown was able to appropriate more for the recognized ability of the Academy principal than the earning capacity of the Academy could offer, and he left at the end of the winter term of that year.

The program of the exhibition at Union Hall, Thursday evening, May 5, 1859, consisted of tableaux, dialogues, orations, recitations, an original colloquy and music. The Latin Salutatory (*Oratis Salutoria*) was pronounced by Arthur M. Merriam, and the valedictory, a poem, by M. B. V. Perley. These orations were given: Energy, Earnestness and Perseverance, by N. D. Dodge, jr.; Foresight, by John W. Perkins; The Spirit of Freedom, by B. H. Weston. The recitations: The Gambler's Wife, by Carrie E. Batchelder, and The Lay of the Madman, by J. B. Putnam. There were six dialogues. The colloquy was original and written by the Preceptress, Miss Helen A. Reed.

This exhibition was among the most attractive known in the history of the school. The hall was crowded; the presentations were most pleasing; everybody was more than gratified; and immediately following the conclusion, a motion came from the audience, that the program be repeated the following evening, which was unanimously voted.

Mr. Dutton was born in Stowe, Vt., Aug. 5, 1831, to Ira and Emeline (Dutton) Dutton, a farmer. He graduated at Middlebury College, 1858, and taught that fall in North Troy, Vt. His next field was at Topsfield, then a year at Georgetown. He studied a year or more at Hartford, Ct., and completed his divinity course at Andover, where he graduated, 1863. That year he was ordained and installed pastor of the Congregational church at Shirley, Mass. He remained there six years, till 1869. In the latter year he was installed at East Longmeadow, Mass., where he served till July, 1885. He then visited the west, for his health, and previous to Oct. 1, 1885, preached in Marshall, Minn. He began preaching in Royalton, Vt., in Oct., 1885, and in Sept., 1886, was installed pastor. In 1887, he received a carriage accident owing to which he was unable to preach, and Oct. 1, retired from the pastorate to become superintendent of the Home for Aged and Disabled Ministers, at South Framingham, Mass. He was several years a Trustee of Monson Academy.

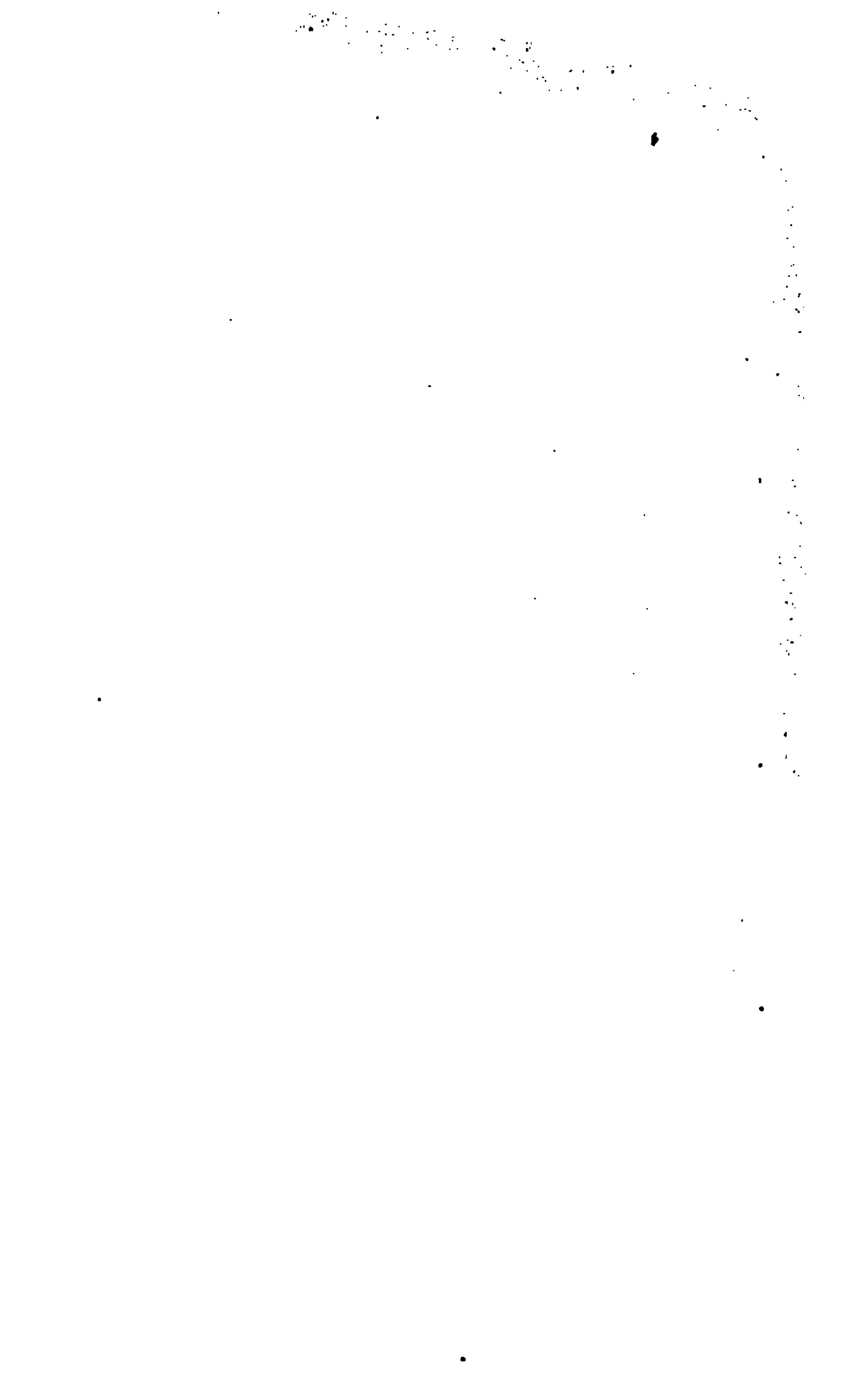
In 1880 he sustained a severe accident by being run over by a loaded team. From this he never fully recovered. He was unable, for a long time, fully to attend to the duties of his pastorate. But for five years he remained with his par-

its impress upon the community like the image and super-scriptio[n] of a coin, or as the signet of a king.

The course of study—now antiquated—was arranged, as we have said, for moral culture, mental discipline and practical life. Therein, is all of it. The mental and moral faculties should be educated together. Eliminate them if you please, but to the extent of the elimination, the growth is unnatural. It is easier to err in matters moral than mental; the error in most instances is more elusive, and the result is a thousand times more fatal. In the Academy's classical course, the Greek Testament had a place of influence, and the English course had its Watts on the Mind, its Christian Evidences and Moral Science. Mr. Vose called his school together Sunday mornings for religious instruction. Moral culture was a part of the learning of those days; our times are certainly not imitators, nor on that account more excellent.

The mental discipline of the Academy was fundamental; it taught the scholar to think consecutively, patiently, critically; it taught him research—to follow sequences and deduce conclusions; it taught him self-reliance in matters of judgment and discretion—a desideratum in the citizenship of a republic—and fitted him—yes, to follow, but more especially—to lead, and also taught that patient labor is the best of life and garners best results. The idea of the plan was, that the fewest studies adequate to the end were best suited to the inexperienced mind of youth; and it is a serious question with us, if the professions, scholarship and current life would not be better served by the old *regime* than by the brimming curriculum of the present time.

Old academic life had its social, moral and literary atmosphere, the principal his magnetism, the scholar his ideality. These influences were peculiar to the old academies and colleges, and may be emphasized here, since we know so well the impressive character of the preceptors, and have thereto the testimony of their pupils. Indeed we are here today in abeyance of their regal behest. These influences are very, very seldom, if ever, found in the public schools; they are, however, among the most important in producing excellence in scholarship and character. A learned divine and academy





Austin Hazen.

ter of merry children and youth is heard on the hill, but in them *we see* only the forms and faces of other days."

## MISS SARAH DANA McMILLAN.

Miss McMillan was Prof. Dutton's preceptress, during his last term. She had graduated at Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, N. H., and had taught three years in the Academy at Plattsburgh, N. Y., and then in the Pinkerton Academy, Derry, N. H. She came to this school, a lady of valuable experience, of cultured talents, and apt ability to impart instruction. Her social life and pleasing manners endeared her to pupils and people, and after Mr. Dutton left, she remained, at the urgent request of friends, and taught, on her own account, during the following summer.

She was the daughter of Hon. Andrew and Emily (Dana) McMillan, born May 12, 1836, at Danville, Vt. Her mother was a lineal descendant of Gen. Israel Putnam. In July, 1865, she married Rev. E. G. Parsons, pastor of the First, now Central, Congregational Church, of Derry. Mr. Parsons was ten years principal of Dummer Academy, having his election in 1882. They now reside in Derry. Mrs. Parsons writes:—"My memories are most pleasant of the genial, hospitable people, who then were active in church and society, and extended their kind ministrations to 'the stranger within the gate'."

## CHAPTER VI.

### THE ACADEMY EDIFICE. ITS LATENT LIFE AND MEED OF PRAISE.

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Thus far we have followed the use of the building, have noted the principal teachers in their order, and most of the assistant principals, have recorded enough of their lives to show their enterprise, their moral force, their natural ability and education, their citizenship and Christian worth,—and it remains to speak of the structure itself.

The property was insured the years 1828, 1829, 1830, for \$1500. The years 1831 and 1832 for \$1000. Jacob Towne, jr., was treasurer, except in 1832, when R. A. Merriam served. The insurance was payable, in case of loss, to Solomon Wildes, of Boston, mortgagee. In 1833, the insurance permitted the use of the building on Sundays for religious meetings.

Solomon Wildes and his wife, Ruth B., of Boston, transferred all their right, title and interest in the property, June 10, 1846, for the amount of the first insurance, \$1500, to Samuel Rea, of Portsmouth. These men were landlords. The former was located on Elm street, and the place was long known as "Wildes' Hotel." Mr. Wildes' interest included eighty-eight undivided hundredth parts; the remaining twelve undivided hundredth parts, belonging to Susan Cummings, of Topsfield, and Frederick Perley of Danvers, were not conveyed.

Samuel Rea and his wife Sarah A. C., of Portsmouth, sold their interest in the property for \$800, by deed dated Oct. 15, 1846, to the persons named in the following schedule: A. S. Peabody, ten shares; Robert S. Perkins, four; J. P. Towne, two; Mary Towne, three; Abigail Perkins, two; Thomas L. Lane, two; Hannah Perkins, one; Isaac N.

Averill, one. There were twenty-five shares valued at \$25 each, and included the same Rea purchased of Wildes.

To these proprietors Susan Cummings quit-claimed her interest in the property Nov. 16, 1846, for \$1. Frederick Perley sold his interest to the same parties Dec. 15, 1846, for \$56. J. W. Healy purchased the property of the proprietors July 22, 1854, for \$800. The signatures on the deed to Healy are: Augustine S. Peabody, Robert S. Perkins, Mary J. Perkins, Isaac N. Averill, Israel Rea, John G. Hood, Thomas L. Lane, J. P. Towne, R. C. Towne, Mary Towne, 2d, Hannah Perkins and Helena Peabody. J. W. Healy and his wife Jane C., of Gardner, conveyed their interests Nov. 23, 1858, for \$1000, to Albert Ira Dutton, who was then principal of the school.

From A. I. Dutton the title passed to Asahel Huntington, clerk of courts, of Salem, and Jacob W. Reed, attorney-at-law, of Groveland, and April 17, 1865, they relinquished their claims—Huntington for \$1 and Reed for \$1050, to Jeremiah Balch and Ephraim P. Peabody. Peabody sold to Balch, Jan. 17, 1868, for \$600, and Balch conveyed the property to the town of Topsfield, March 6, 1868, for \$1450. For some time between 1865 and 8 the building was used as a dwelling.

The town immediately converted the building into a school-house. The number of scholars had increased beyond the capacity of the modest structure on the common, and the "Topsfield Academy" became the "Centre school-house of Topsfield."

The mission of this property, dedicated so solemnly on May 7, 1828, by the earnest devotion of the whole community, in the joyous anticipation of long life and eternal good; the mission of able and devoted teachers in helping supply the world with cultured intellects and correct and stable principles could not die. Callimachus of ancient time, wrote:—

"The good never die."

For several years the town had felt the imperative need of ample and better accommodations for her scholars. The old worn floors and doors, the palsied windows and wood stoves, afforded no security for health and gave no promise

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### THE ACADEMY EDIFICE.

#### ITS LATENT LIFE AND MEED OF PRAISE.

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This institution is to be judged by what she *was* and what she *did*.

Her principal teachers were nineteen in number—seventeen gentlemen and two ladies. Of the men, seven graduated at Dartmouth, three at Middlebury, one at Bowdoin, one at Harvard, one at University of Vermont while four were not college graduates. Of the latter, one at the age of ten years was reading Greek in Dummer Academy, and in due time received from Bowdoin, unasked, the master's degree in recognition of his classical attainments and proficiency as a professional teacher; another has given a long life of service to school and church; a third with his learned consort served twenty-nine years in the school-room and after her decease rounded out for himself a period of forty-five years of school work; the other bravely fought disease and labored in school and church till forty-two years of age.

Marble and Kent died at the ages of thirty-three and thirty-six years respectively, just entering upon their sphere of robust, aggressive, brilliant manhood. Of the remaining fourteen, eleven sealed the books of life at the average age of seventy-one, and three at the average age of seventy-two years are living. Long since one of the ladies passed over to the great majority, and one remains. Of the assistant principals and preceptresses we have sketched only seven—men and women bred at college and seminary.

Mark this cluster of stars that shed its salutary influence upon this Academy like the sweet influence of the Pleiades, every Pleiad like the facet of some rare gem, attractive by its own color, and brilliancy and beauty. Not that Gods eternity of space does not abound in clustered sweetness and activity: we are speaking of our own—men and women of cultivated talents, of aspiring genius, of exalted character, of great industry and lofty purpose. The achievements of their lives, their extended fame, and titled names prove our characterizations true and just. Here they gave the strength of their young maturity, here budded the promise of their sterling manhood, a noble ambition inspired their toil, fidelity crowned it with success and, though their terms of service were comparatively short, their names are remembered by citizen and pupil alike with praise. Their individuality left

for comfort to the scholars, and the furniture and appointments were inadequate to the needs. In the summer of 1889, all was changed; the old institution as a member of America's unique and grand common school system, took a new lease of life. The front of the building was changed from the south to the west; the old ante-rooms and stairways were removed; and the entire building as it formerly stood made into four school-rooms, ample for forty or fifty students each. Each room has a cherry-wood floor, has for teacher and scholars desks of beautiful Michigan wood, has large, fine wall-slates, and has an even hot water heat radiating from the window sides of the rooms. The front, now upon the west, is a portico, 39 feet wide and projecting from the main building 14 feet. Beneath it is the heater; within it are four ante-rooms and the broad stairways. It is entered from the south, the north, and in front. The ventilation of the rooms is complete. Too much cannot be said in praise of this amended structure. No town of equal wealth in the county can boast or be proud of a better one. It may have cost much, but it is the equivalent of the cost, and will continue modern and adequate in all respects, a joy and comfort to the student, a conservator of health and learning, and the just pride of every patriotic citizen, for fifteen or twenty years, without additional cost. The building committee were: S. D. Hood, J. B. Poor, B. P. Edwards, D. Bradstreet and B. P. Pike.

The individuality of the Academy dissolved, in 1860, at the age of thirty-two years. She had survived her sisters, except the female Academies at Ipswich and Andover—not a survival of the fittest that we know of, but she was among the last survivors of a peerage, whose demise any community may rightly, truly mourn.

That she had several attacks of "innocuous desuetude" is no derogation from her fair fame or noble worth. As well question the grace and force of Christianity, because there were the Dark Ages; or great Homer's place among poets, because

"\* \* \* Homer's self sometimes, they say,  
Took to his night-cap on the way."

trustee, in speaking of the personal character of the Academy principal, said:—"This influence in many cases was even more than scholarship, as it had more to do in the building up of strong, harmonious, and well developed manhood." How valuable then, is the combined influence of magnetism, ideality and atmosphere!

Nearly 800 names of students of this Academy are recorded. Ten principals issued no catalogue. The number of ladies and gentlemen who studied here is safely estimated at 1200. A large proportion of them taught while students, and thus the individuality of the Academy began to expand. Some continued the teacher's profession, some became intelligent and progressive farmers, some entered business, inspiring enterprise and correcting methods, others became skillful mechanics, and many studied in higher schools and entered the professions. The old institution is living today in the deeds of her children; the leaven of her plemey is working through a thousand agencies, building, molding, guiding, sustaining. In biological language, she is in happy correspondence with her environment, and her life and work are everlasting as her environment.

Cried an ancient philosopher:—"Give me where to stand and with my lever I will move the world." A problem in Prof. Greenleaf's National Arithmetic, by way of illustrating a principle, calculated the billions upon billions of miles from a given fulcrum he must stand, and the next problem calculated the billions of years he must live, to move the earth one inch.

Cried an ancient philosopher:—"Give me where to stand and I will move the world," and Topsfield Academy, by her life that was and her life that is, exclaims: "Stand where thou art, and thou shalt indeed move the world, by thy diligence and perseverance, by thy integrity and ability, by thy learning and culture, by thy sobriety and character—thy manhood, by thy citizen service and business enterprise, thy philanthropy and devotion to thy God.—Hail! blessed potency, hail!

for comfort to the scholars, and the furniture and appointments were inadequate to the needs. In the summer of 1889, all was changed; the old institution as a member of America's unique and grand common school system, took a new lease of life. The front of the building was changed from the south to the west; the old ante-rooms and stairways were removed; and the entire building as it formerly stood made into four school-rooms, ample for forty or fifty students each. Each room has a cherry-wood floor, has for teacher and scholars desks of beautiful Michigan wood, has large, fine wall-slates, and has an even hot water heat radiating from the window sides of the rooms. The front, now upon the west, is a portico, 39 feet wide and projecting from the main building 14 feet. Beneath it is the heater; within it are four ante-rooms and the broad stairways. It is entered from the south, the north, and in front. The ventilation of the rooms is complete. Too much cannot be said in praise of this amended structure. No town of equal wealth in the county can boast or be proud of a better one. It may have cost much, but it is the equivalent of the cost, and will continue modern and adequate in all respects, a joy and comfort to the student, a conservator of health and learning, and the just pride of every patriotic citizen, for fifteen or twenty years, without additional cost. The building committee were: S. D. Hood, J. B. Poor, B. P. Edwards, D. Bradstreet and B. P. Pike.

The individuality of the Academy dissolved, in 1860, at the age of thirty-two years. She had survived her sisters, except the female Academies at Ipswich and Andover—not a survival of the fittest that we know of, but she was among the last survivors of a peerage, whose demise any community may rightly, truly mourn.

That she had several attacks of "innocuous desuetude" is no derogation from her fair fame or noble worth. As well question the grace and force of Christianity, because there were the Dark Ages; or great Homer's place among poets, because

"\* \* \* Homer's self sometimes, they say,  
Took to his night-cap on the way."

This institution is to be judged by what she *was* and what she *did*.

Her principal teachers were nineteen in number—seventeen gentlemen and two ladies. Of the men, seven graduated at Dartmouth, three at Middlebury, one at Bowdoin, one at Harvard, one at University of Vermont while four were not college graduates. Of the latter, one at the age of ten years was reading Greek in Dummer Academy, and in due time received from Bowdoin, unasked, the master's degree in recognition of his classical attainments and proficiency as a professional teacher; another has given a long life of service to school and church; a third with his learned consort served twenty-nine years in the school-room and after her decease rounded out for himself a period of forty-five years of school work; the other bravely fought disease and labored in school and church till forty-two years of age.

Marble and Kent died at the ages of thirty-three and thirty-six years respectively, just entering upon their sphere of robust, aggressive, brilliant manhood. Of the remaining fourteen, eleven sealed the books of life at the average age of seventy-one, and three at the average age of seventy-two years are living. Long since one of the ladies passed over to the great majority, and one remains. Of the assistant principals and preceptresses we have sketched only seven—men and women bred at college and seminary.

Mark this cluster of stars that shed its salutary influence upon this Academy like the sweet influence of the Pleiades, every Pleiad like the facet of some rare gem, attractive by its own color, and brilliancy and beauty. Not that Gods eternity of space does not abound in clustered sweetness and activity: we are speaking of our own—men and women of cultivated talents, of aspiring genius, of exalted character, of great industry and lofty purpose. The achievements of their lives, their extended fame, and titled names prove our characterizations true and just. Here they gave the strength of their young maturity, here budded the promise of their sterling manhood, a noble ambition inspired their toil, fidelity crowned it with success and, though their terms of service were comparatively short, their names are remembered by citizen and pupil alike with praise. Their individuality left

its impress upon the community like the image and super-  
scription of a coin, or as the signet of a king.

The course of study—now antiquated—was arranged, as we have said, for moral culture, mental discipline and practical life. Therein, is all of it. The mental and moral faculties should be educated together. Eliminate them if you please, but to the extent of the elimination, the growth is unnatural. It is easier to err in matters moral than mental; the error in most instances is more elusive, and the result is a thousand times more fatal. In the Academy's classical course, the Greek Testament had a place of influence, and the English course had its Watts on the Mind, its Christian Evidences and Moral Science. Mr. Vose called his school together Sunday mornings for religious instruction. Moral culture was a part of the learning of those days; our times are certainly not imitators, nor on that account more excellent.

The mental discipline of the Academy was fundamental; it taught the scholar to think consecutively, patiently, critically; it taught him research—to follow sequences and deduce conclusions; it taught him self-reliance in matters of judgment and discretion—a desideratum in the citizenship of a republic—and fitted him—yes, to follow, but more especially—to lead, and also taught that patient labor is the best of life and garners best results. The idea of the plan was, that the fewest studies adequate to the end were best suited to the inexperienced mind of youth; and it is a serious question with us, if the professions, scholarship and current life would not be better served by the old *regime* than by the brimming curriculum of the present time.

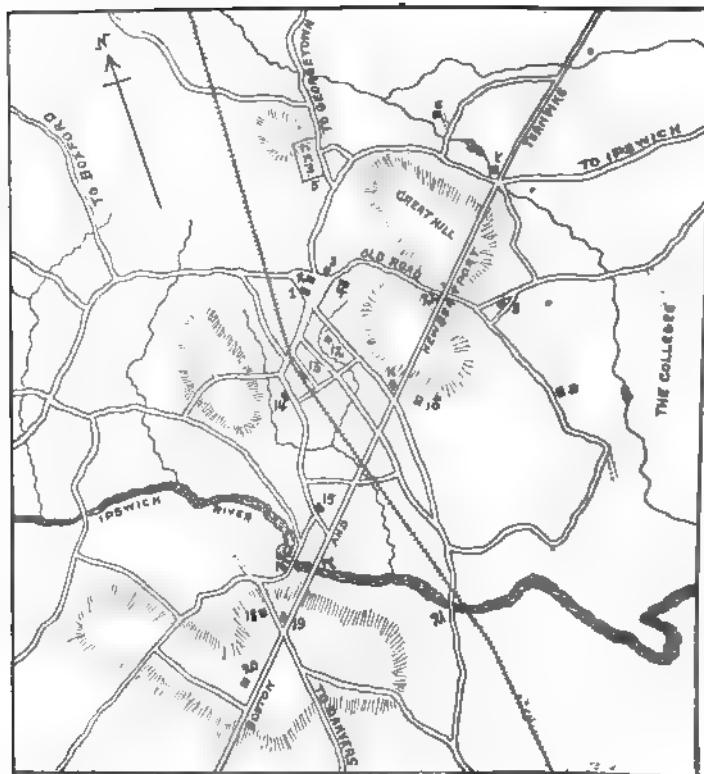
Old academic life had its social, moral and literary atmosphere, the principal his magnetism, the scholar his ideality. These influences were peculiar to the old academies and colleges, and may be emphasized here, since we know so well the impressive character of the preceptors, and have thereto the testimony of their pupils. Indeed we are here today in abeyance of their regal bhest. These influences are very, very seldom, if ever, found in the public schools; they are, however, among the most important in producing excellence in scholarship and character. A learned divine and academy

trustee, in speaking of the personal character of the Academy principal, said:—"This influence in many cases was even more than scholarship, as it had more to do in the building up of strong, harmonious, and well developed manhood." How valuable then, is the combined influence of magnetism, ideality and atmosphere!

Nearly 800 names of students of this Academy are recorded. Ten principals issued no catalogue. The number of ladies and gentlemen who studied here is safely estimated at 1200. A large proportion of them taught while students, and thus the individuality of the Academy began to expand. Some continued the teacher's profession, some became intelligent and progressive farmers, some entered business, inspiring enterprise and correcting methods, others became skillful mechanics, and many studied in higher schools and entered the professions. The old institution is living today in the deeds of her children; the leaven of her polemy is working through a thousand agencies, building, molding, guiding, sustaining. In biological language, she is in happy correspondence with her environment, and her life and work are everlasting as her environment.

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MAP OF TOPSFIELD.

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Town Hall.<br>2. Congregational Church.<br>3. Methodist Church.<br>4. Parson Capen's House.<br>5. Pine Grove Cemetery.<br>6. Site of Asael Smith House.<br>7. Francis Peabody's Grist Mill.<br>8. Spot where lived Sarah Wildes, executed as a witch, 1692.<br>9. The Poor Farm.<br>10. Willow Tree. Geographical Centre of Essex County. | 11. Site of Turnpike Hotel.<br>12. The Tepefield Academy.<br>13. Cattle Show Field.<br>14. Stanwood Home for Children.<br>15. Agricultural Farm.<br>16. The Wooden Bridge.<br>17. The Stone Bridge.<br>18. The Piagroo Mansion House.<br>19. The Old Toll House.<br>20. The Crowninshield-Pelras Mansion House.<br>21. Towne's Bridge.<br>22. The Dry Bridge. |
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LITERARY EXERCISES.  
REUNION  
TEACHERS AND STUDENTS.  
TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.

AUGUST 12, 1897.

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ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

JEFFERSON K. COLE, OF PEABODY, MASS.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—Before I begin my address I would like to read you a letter written by Professor George W. Atherton, President of the Pennsylvania State College.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE,

President's Office.

*State College, Centre Co., Pa.*

MR. GEORGE F. DOW,

*July 21, 1897.*

Topsfield, Mass.

*My dear sir:*—I very much regret to be compelled to give up my engagement to meet the old Academy students next month.\* At the time I wrote you last I had not the slightest idea that anything could intervene to prevent me from being with you; but I find myself obliged to go to Europe, and shall therefore be out of the country when the Reunion is held.

\*Professor Atherton had accepted an invitation to deliver an address at this time.

The disappointment is a very great one to me, as I had anticipated a renewal of associations which have been among the most delightful of my life. My attendance at the Academy was the first step in my effort to secure a college education, and, while the associations then formed have been broken by long separation, it would be an inexpressible satisfaction to take again by the hand those with whom I spent so many delightful hours. To the few who will remember me I wish you would convey my greetings, and to all my sincere regrets.

Thanking you very much for your courtesy in the matter,  
I am

Faithfully yours,

GEO. W. ATHERTON.

And because of Mr. Atherton's inability to be here, and the change necessary in the program, I stand before you at this time to bid you welcome. So, classmates, schoolmates, former teachers and pupils, as I look into your faces this afternoon, changed though they are by the years that have passed, I see, I think, in each one, a reflection of that which is in my own heart, and I will say, as so many said this morning, "I am glad to be here today." I am glad to be in Topsfield on this most interesting and auspicious occasion.

We may congratulate ourselves, my friends, on the beautiful day that Providence has given us for this gathering; and as we have come together, as we have shaken the hands of those who were our schoolmates so many years ago, and have renewed those early acquaintances, real joy has come into our hearts, and I feel that it is a gathering of which everyone present is glad to be a part.

It is my duty, as well as my privilege, to extend to you, as members of the Academy, the welcome of those whose interest and labors of love have made this coming together a reality. In behalf of Mr. George Francis Dow, to whom perhaps we are most indebted for this pleasant occasion, I extend to you a most hearty and cordial welcome.

Associated with him are the later students of the Academy, and the Historical society of the town, and in their behalf I extend to you a most cordial welcome.

And the good old town, I do not know that we have a special or official representative of the town present, but I am sure that we have from the citizens, many of whom we remember with great pleasure, a most hearty welcome.

We are changed, but as I now look into your faces, and as I have, during the morning, met one and another of my old school fellows, after close scrutiny, and a long grasp of the hand, I have been able to say "Yes, I can see the old familiar eyes, and hear something of the younger tone of the voice," and so our hearts spring forth to one another, and we grasp the hand again and say "Yes, we were here together forty years ago;" forty and more years, some of us can say, and still we feel young today.

But the hands of time have been busy. We have changed, and the old Academy is changed. We should all be glad if we could go up yonder hill and in at the door of the Academy and see things as they were then, but the building has been changed—changed to be younger and more modern, as is fitting and to be expected, in a community like this.

But some will say, "Topsfield Academy! Why, Topsfield Academy is dead! It died years ago!" Oh no! Topsfield Academy still lives! Not only in the hearts of those before me, but it lives in our lives—in the lives of every one who hears me this afternoon. It lives in our memory of those whom we knew in those years, and who have gone on before, and whom we expect to meet sometime on the other shore.

One of the reverend gentlemen who sit behind me, said to-day that he has never seen the name of a Topsfield Academy student in the Police Gazette or a Rogues' Gallery. (He may, later on, tell you how he knows so much about the Rogues' Gallery.) But I presume he is right when he says that those who were educated in Topsfield, and took in the inspiration of these beautiful hills, and carried out the instructions given us by our kind and thoughtful teachers, have never been heard of in the Police Gazette or Rogues' Gallery.

To Topsfield Academy and its instructors we all look back to-day with pleasure and gratitude, for what we here gained in our efforts to acquire a higher education.

And, to the old Academy, the communities about here

from which we came owe a debt which, perhaps, some might say, can never be repaid, but which we may, I think, better say, has been, and is being, paid in the lives of the many who went out from the Academy so well equipped for eminent usefulness.

And the founders of the Academy,—let us not forget them, but bear in mind how richly we have entered into their labors, and how great is our obligation to them for their zeal, their unselfishness and their liberality.

And the good old town, which in so many ways and for so many years did so much to maintain the Academy! It is a source of great honor to this people that here, when public schools of a high grade were lacking, such an institution as this held so high and so large a place in their hearts. The fact is indisputable testimony to the character and worth of the good citizens of Topsfield. And the good cheer, the hearty welcome, the ample preparations which meet us on every hand here to-day are but added testimony in the same direction, and are proof to us that in all these years the character of this people has not changed, except it be for the better.

So in many ways, in many hearts, in many lives, the old times are renewed, and we who are here to-day rejoice that a kind Providence has spared us to meet once more, living witnesses to the fact that Topsfield Academy still lives.

## ORATION.

BY JOHN WRIGHT PERKINS, OF SALEM, MASS.

I am forceably reminded by my position here to-day, of an incident which happened nearly forty years ago. Its story has been often repeated and is doubtless familiar to many of you. But when new the incident was this:—The late Rufus Choate had been engaged to give the Oration at the commencement exercises of Dartmouth College, his Alma Mater. Failing health had obliged him to withdraw from the engagement and Dr. Holmes had been secured to speak in his place. On the Doctor's way up to Hanover the question was asked:—"Who is to fill Mr. Choate's place on the program?" To which the Doctor at once replied:—"No-body is going to *fill* it, I am going up to rattle round *in* it."

Sharing with you in the general disappointment and regret, occasioned by the necessary absence of the distinguished gentleman, who was put down as the Orator for this occasion, I have at the eleventh hour engaged to stand here and "rattle round in his place."

In the twenty minutes to which this part of the program has been wisely limited, it would not, of course, be possible, to treat any subject exhaustively, but it will be necessary to adopt a somewhat touch and go style, in the way of suggestion, rather than of completeness.

Having in mind, that we were to meet as the representatives of an educational institution, drawn together by considerations chiefly personal and local in their nature, it has seemed to me not inappropriate to take as my theme:—The Personal and the Local Element in Education. It is possible for words of most important meaning to lose something of their definiteness, by the very commonness and extent of

their use. They seem to shade off into varied significations modified by the personalities of the many who use them. Thus, Religion, Politics, Education, stand for most important principles, and yet we know that each of these words may awaken different conceptions, in the minds of people of the same community. Hence, in speaking of such topics it is well in the beginning, to make a statement of what the subject treated means in the mind of the speaker. Particularly is this true of Education, since, as we shall see, the word has two well-defined meanings.

Some months ago, I was requested to write an article of not more than four hundred words upon this subject "What constitutes a good education and how to obtain it." I respectfully declined, giving as my excuse, that I did not have sufficient time to cover so large a subject in so few words. I added, however, that for a brief and comprehensive answer to the questions proposed, I knew of nothing better than six words from the Old Testament:—"Fear God and keep his commandments," bearing in mind that fear here means profound reverence, and that the commands of God have been written not only in a book, but all over the face of nature, and stamped upon the individual conscience of every rational being. You will remember that in the context from which these six words are taken, they are followed by the statement, "For this is the whole duty of man." But the word duty is in italic, indicating that it is not in the original, so that the Hebrew text is even stronger and more suggestive, with the meaning, "For this is the whole of man." Education in its enlarged sense has to do with the whole man.

Since giving that answer, I have heard a definition given by two college professors, from widely distant colleges, and each defined education in the words used by the other, namely "fullness of life," which is much the same in substance as the one suggested above. But this word in its strictly technical and scientific sense is more restricted in its meaning, and denotes only that culture which is the product of a human mind working upon and directing the mind of another. The large definition given above reminds us of the words of him, whom whatever else we may think of him, we must regard as the

greatest and most influential of teachers in which he proclaimed the object of his mission in the declaration, "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." But along side of this declaration it is well to place his other saying, "Is not the life more than meat and the body than raiment?" and also his statement, "He that would save his life must lose it." In these three sayings of the founder of Christianity, we have the foundation of a large part of the Philosophy of Education. We have its aim, an abundant life, the suggested meaning of life as something raised above mere material well being, and the further truth that the largest expansion of life must come through previous suppression and self denial.

In the old Assembly's Catechism, in which our fathers were instructed and some of us began to be instructed, the first question and answer, you will recall, has to do with the "chief end of man." As it is therein defined, it is not easy to see how either part of the answer could be realized short of the fullest development of all our powers and capabilities. For a time, it was a question of hot discussion and patient investigation among men of science, whether in the physical world, there was to be found convincing evidence of the spontaneous origin of life. But after much trial the confession came, "We know nothing of the origin of life save as it is found in preexistant life." So of by far the greater part of our intellectual, our moral and our spiritual life, the part which is the product of education in its scientific sense, we have to say, it is wholly dependant upon preexistant life of a similar kind.

Whether the man has been trained in the schools, or is a so-called "self made man"—an impossible product, by the way, in civilized society—in the last analysis he will be found mainly indebted to the spoken or written word, or to the unspoken or unwritten personal influence of other men.

So great is the undesigned and unconscious effect of social relationship, that it has always formed a great factor in the advantages of our schools, particularly where, as in academy and college, the students see much of one another outside of the hours set for study and recitation. Edward Everett Hale, speaking of the influences which had contributed to his education, says, for the good he received in college, he was more

indebted to the fellows, than to the faculty. If any one thinks that Dr. Hale does not mean to be taken quite seriously in this assertion, it must at least be acknowledged as strong testimony, from a high authority, to the advantage obtained from the mutual intercourse of student life.

A similar sentiment was expressed in a letter I once received from a gentleman in a distant city, concerning his son who was under my instruction. He said he wished his boy to go to college, preferably to one which had a widely distributed patronage, that he might make the acquaintance of cultivated men, representing different and distant types of American society.

But the personal element, great as its province is, can not claim the entire realm of education for its own, when we use the word education, in its most comprehensive sense. Then the word stands for a result, which is the product of all the influences that combined to increase one's power, elevate his taste, or purify his character, and among these, the element of locality, with all it implies, must take a very high rank. In savage life this comes to be strikingly noticeable. Literature and tradition are fruitful in anecdote of habits of minute observation, of mental alertness, and power of quick adaptation to sudden emergencies, among uncivilized men, which seem to us preternatural, not to say, supernatural.

In literary productions of the highest order, the most impressive passages are often those which reveal the power exercised upon the author by local scenery and homely incident. Prophet and Psalmist are replete with imagery of the open country life with which they must have lived on terms of friendly intimacy. When we read Homer and other ancient poets, Greek and Latin, we are constantly finding delightful evidence of strength, wisdom, and refined simplicity of taste drawn from the same unfailing source. Especially can no one read Homer without being impressed with the evidence, that he was influenced by proximity to the ocean. One of his many descriptive epithets is so expressive and resonant, that from it Dr. Holmes coins a word, when he speaks of the "poluphloesboean sea." This, in plainer English, means the sea of many voices. Can any one doubt, that the man who thus habitually expresses himself, had often

walked by the shore of the sounding sea, and had taken into his soul both the awakening, and the subduing effect of the thunderous reverberation, and the lisping, tinkling melody of its music.

Among poets of our own tongue, Burns, Whittier, Longfellow, and Lowell, represent—two of them—an education independent of the schools, the other two, the highest education to be obtained by almost every appliance of culture. Yet all are alike in this, that those things in their works that charm us most, could not have been produced, had not the authors been brought face to face with Nature at first hand.

Whenever I hear—as I frequently do—children whose life is mostly confined in cities, reading or reciting gems of prose or poetry descriptive of country life or incident, there always stirs within me, a feeling of pity for their hopeless inability to appreciate the spirit of the words they utter. At such times, I think how much there is that calls for unspeakable gratitude, in the lot of one in whose early life, field and meadow, pasture and woodland, winding streams and sequestered paths, animate life both wild and domestic, were the objects of daily observation.

I still walk occasionally over the same road and pasture paths that were my daily route between this school and the home of my boyhood. They happen to lie through some of the most attractive scenery of this beautiful old town. And, as I stop here and there to gaze, seeing before me the beauty and variety of the extended landscape and the distant sea, I ask myself the question:—"Did I as a boy, *did I*, take in all these things at their full worth?" and the answer rises in my heart, that whether I did or did not, their silent influence wrought for me, that which has immeasurably increased the worth of everything else that I have ever learned. Among the blessed fruits of these country academies, we are to consider the importance of the service they rendered, in bringing young men and maidens from the cities, during a part of the plastic period of youth, into more intimate contact and acquaintance with the grand old teacher of us all, Mother Nature herself.

But the influence of locality may be felt as an educative force also, through the law of association, in bringing before

our mental vision with increased vividness, deeds and events that deserve undying remembrance. Thus, from all parts of our country and from beyond the sea, the thronging multitudes come to visit Plymouth Rock, and Lexington, and Concord, and Bunker Hill. They come with no expectation surely, of being thrilled by the intrinsic beauty or grandeur of these places; but because the places are suggestive of the sublime faith in God, through which our country was founded, and the sturdy, heroic valor, with which its liberties were defended.

Two hundred and fifty years ago this very year, the Puritan spirit expressed itself in establishing the first free public school in Massachusetts. The act of establishment was accompanied by a preamble which stated the motive, and ended with these words:—"That learning may not be buried in the grave of our fathers in the church and commonwealth." They had already founded the college. We hold these acts in highest honor, not alone because we regard them as the fountain from which there has flowed, and from which we believe there will ever continue to flow, a stream whose waters shall do much for the "healing of the nations," but because we know something of the personal sacrifice and self-denial which these acts involved, on the part of those by whom they were conceived and executed.

But founded in much the same spirit, and often maintained with hardly less personal sacrifice, were the country academies which dotted so many of the hills of New England, and which did a most important work that otherwise must, in great part, have been left undone.

Today the spell of personality, and the spell of locality are strong upon us. We feel that it is good for us to meet once more, to renew our familiarity with the place, and with one another, and to recall the memory of other schoolmates and former teachers, to all of whom, our feeling of indebtedness is deep and lasting. But the place and the occasion remind us, also, of others, who may or may not have ever been members of the same school, but through whose inspiration, and self-denying help, the advantages of an extended school-life were made our own. Today, like the gracious return of a blessed presence, the thought comes to

us, of those who judged no pains too great, no sacrifice too costly, that son or daughter, brother or sister, might share to the full in the benefits of sound learning, because they believed that in such sacrifice, they were helping to transmute the outward things of life, into the inward power of enlarged being, and because by precept and example, handed down through long lines of ancestry, they had learned and they wished us never to forget, to "look not upon the things which are seen, but upon the things which are not seen," in the firm faith and belief, that "the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

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SIXTEEN HUNDRED EIGHTY, OR WESTERN LADS

In winter sea-frosts  
Our hearts are at the  
In Topfield town  
In snows are strong and wild,  
As in the "Duke's Hill."  
Our homes are cold,  
In Topfield town.

Today we have expect,  
And welcome the friend who  
In Topfield town.  
Each day and night we pass—  
Each night in memory pass—  
And track the ancient street  
In Topfield town.

Thanks for our welcome here.  
Thanks for the kindly cheer  
In Topfield town.  
Twas ever Topfield's way,  
To make the comer's stay  
Happy as summer day  
In Topfield town.

TUNE—*Aurora*.





GEORGE CONANT

## BEAUTY.

GEORGE CONANT, OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA.

"Beauty armed with Virtue fortifies the soul  
With a commanding but a sweet control."

Whatever strikes the eye  
With a pleasurable thrill,  
Or delights the willing ear  
And its winding channels fill,  
Or wakes the soul to action  
And its finer fibres sway,  
Or touches up the heart-strings  
In a sweetly brilliant way,  
Has charms upon the beautiful  
In sky, on land and sea  
'Mong high and low of every race—  
A key to harmony.  
The harmony of color  
And the harmony of song,  
The melody of Vesper bells  
To the beautiful belong.  
Beauty lingers in the lily,  
Is enthroned within the rose,  
Climbs to dizzy heights of splendor  
In the arch of God's rainbows,  
Slumbers with the sleeping cherub  
In its cottage cradle bed,  
Wakes to conscious revelation  
When fair youth and maiden wed.  
Seen is beauty in the lowest  
And the highest of God's creatures,  
When in symmetry enfolded  
And endowed with winning features.

Nothing can be viewed as homely  
That gives pleasure to the mind :  
A wrinkled maid filled up with goodness  
An Uncle Tom both black and blind,  
A whitened head packed full of wisdom,  
A benefactor bowed with years,  
Unselfish children at their pastime,  
A fallen Peri shedding tears,  
A mother with her firstling baby,  
An Indian girl by mirrored stream  
Making her simple morning toilet,  
A model for an artist's theme—  
All these are pictures full of beauty  
Pictures hung on every hand,  
Multitudes greet *their* unveiling  
Admiration they command.  
The world is full of things of beauty  
Everywhere within the poles,  
It strikes with force all keen observers,  
It stirs them to their inner souls.  
Looking from a mountain summit  
There breaks a captivating view,  
Nerve-stilling thoughts course long the brain-c  
Nature's pictures touched anew ;  
The vastness of the sweep of vision  
Quickens pulse and brings delight,  
And the far off landscape beauties  
Seem to swing before the sight ;  
Lake and orchard nestling closely,  
Vineyard, meadow, garden, rock,  
Silver threads of winding rivers,  
Emerald forest, shepherd's flock,  
Shadows from o'erhanging cloudland,  
Moving, fleck the valley wide,  
Seas of grain-field, waving golden  
On which ghostly ships might ride.  
This is cycloramic beauty  
Only seen from towering heights,  
Overwhelming in its grandeur—  
Far transcending other sights,

### THE POEM.

Dimly glints the distant ocean,  
Circumscribing with its sheen  
Islands on the curved horizon  
Rounding out the shimmering scene.  
The vision changes: Night is drawing  
Down her curtain near and far  
Sable drapery unfolding—  
Pins it with a jeweled star.  
As the twilight further deepens  
Nature's symphonies resound;  
Chirping insects the soprano  
Turtle doves the alto sound.  
Then the silver limbs of Luna,  
One on earth and one in sky,  
Vault upon the floor of heaven;  
Trip it with the stars on high.  
Constellations light the ceiling  
Of the azure concave arch,  
Unique figures masked and merry—  
Grand processions dance and march.  
What more magnifies our pleasure,  
Glorifies the eager sight,  
Than the heavenly exhibition  
Of an oriental night?  
The immensity of dome  
Studded full of glittering gems,  
Crowns the works of the Creator,  
Drapes his garments to the hem.  
Reincarnate Michael Angelo  
In the Cistine Chapel, lives  
Immortalized in splendid frescoes  
Which only God-like genius gives.  
Nature's songs in quiet cadence  
Sound at night and early morn,  
In the sighing pine tree forest,  
In the rustling fields of corn.  
When the frost king grasps the branches  
Covering twigs on bush and tree,  
And the sun unlocks the shackles,  
How they fall with tinkling glee!

From the beauties of creation  
    Lying 'neath cerulean dome,  
Rising higher than the landscape  
    Are the beauties of the home:  
Wheels domestic running smoothly  
    With no break or plaintive cry,  
Love, the motive power and lubric  
    As the days go sweetly by.  
In the serious days of history  
    When America was new,  
When religion was the watchword  
    And the christians were but few,  
When the worshipers were fleeing  
    From the tyranny of kings,  
And these potentates were masters  
    Of men's souls and other things,  
When brave woman's deeds were stifled  
    And heroines held at bay,  
And men were lords and masters  
    Having everything to say,  
When such records were unfolding  
    In the days of long ago—  
*Then* the mothers seemed like ciphers  
    But were far from being so;  
For the rock where the Pilgrims landed  
    Was as much fore-mothers' rock,  
As it was the famed forefathers'—  
    Just as sturdy, stalwart, stock.  
When we think now of the hardships  
    Our forefathers struggled through,  
Just consider our condition  
    Had not fore-mothers struggled too.  
Let a painting then be issued  
    Let it hang on every wall,  
Representing our fore-mothers—  
    'Twould excel in beauty all.  
Character foremost must illumine  
    Every step in life's career,  
Crowning, makes the wearer fairer,  
    Beauty that all men revere.

Righteous lives transcend in beauty  
    Art or song or facile pen,  
Reaching 'cross the silent river  
    Recognized as *golden* then.  
God's greatest works revolve in cycles,  
    Wheeling, whirling, never wrong,  
So, moral heroes have an orbit  
    Which to the beautiful belong.  
Men will travel land and ocean  
    In search of treasures seldom found,  
When all around them in the home-land  
    Treasures everywhere abound:  
Wonderful treasures in tree and flower,  
    Mountain fastness, field and sky—  
Myriad microscopic museums,  
    Under our very feet they lie.  
What so fair as falling water,  
    Cascades leaping, foaming, white,  
Mountain torrents rushing onward  
    Filling soul with rare delight?  
Breathing marble—sculptor's offspring  
    Chiseled from his fertile brain—  
Artist's soul-work, living canvas,  
    Applauding we can scarce refrain.  
Down in caverns of the ocean  
    So profound the brain e'en reels  
Find we many a field of beauty—  
    A world of wealth man's skill reveals.  
The beauties of Nature never are stilled  
    Her cataracts thunder and roar,  
Diapasons of Ocean will ever resound  
    On island and continent shore.  
Nightingale notes from ideal throats  
    Ravish the ear and the soul,  
And even the morning stars it is writ  
    Took up the musical role.  
Beauty glows in flowers of language,  
    Pulpit, platform show its power,  
Rostrum, forum, sway the masses,—  
    Eloquence is beauty's dower.

Search we in Zulu or Hottentot land,  
 Plunge we in African shade,  
 Climb we above the glacial flow,  
 Spectacular shows are arrayed.  
 There is beauty of color, beauty of form,  
 Beauty of figure and face,  
 Beautiful thoughts—the mosaics of mind,  
 Beauty of manner and grace.

Scriptural beauties hung on biblical walls,  
 Charm us, inspire us and sorrow forestalls ;  
 Prophets and saints, historians, kings,  
 Have given to thought most beautiful wings ;  
 They flash on our vision as we scan the pure pages,  
 "The beauty of holiness" has been noted for ages,  
 'Tis woven in story, repeated in song,  
 Inspiring the feeble and righting the wrong ;  
 "How beautiful on mountains are couriers' feet  
 That bring us glad tidings," and goodness replete.  
 "The beautiful temple," "the beautiful gate,"  
 The beautiful home *we* anticipate—  
 All thrill as with hope of a life that is newer,  
 Cementing our friendship and making it truer.  
 Now ere we dismiss this delight-giving theme  
 There uplifts before me a kind of day-dream ;  
 A landscape so fair rises full on my sight,  
 Its loveliness rare the muses invite.  
 A village I see as a crown to the field,  
 Her emerald robes in beauty revealed,  
 Enfringed by a radiant meandering river  
 Benign benefactions exhaling forever,  
 Reflecting a joy like the "Vale of Cashmere,"  
 A bucolic scene that scarce has a peer.  
 Here the bees of Hymettus voice their sweet coming  
 As they bring in the nectar with musical humming—  
 The robes, the field, the bees and the stream  
 Roseate and sun-kissed make up the day-dream.  
 Oh ! Topsfield ! Top of the fields, and pride of the hill  
 Tranquil and restful panacea for men's ills,

#### THE POEM.

Greeting Aurora, as she mounts her red car,  
For a drive thro' the gates of the morning afar;  
Smiling with sunshine, smiling in shade,  
Foremost in peace, but in war not dismayed,  
Sitting as Queen in this beauteous valley,  
Gracious to guests that 'round your feet rally!  
Villas, meadows, and river your arena bedecking  
With garden and orchard—your verdant slopes flecking,  
Your firesides aglow with contentment and peace—  
May your sky as today from gloom have surcease.  
And more than all this may the stars on you shine  
Lustrous in beauty as in days of "lang syne."  
The day will soon close, but in mem'ry to exist,  
Our lessons recited, the school be dismissed,  
Yet the greenness of age must prove no delusion  
Can we only accept these words in conclusion:  
In "Union there's strength" in reunion yet more,  
The latch string has beauty when it hangs out the door;  
The reunion of hearts as the world ever stands  
Is more beautiful still than reunion of hands.  
Tho' the gathering years make the outside grow old  
And the teeth leave their moorings or are yellow with gold,  
Tho' the heads become silvered and the backs have a bend,  
And the steps get a sort of irregular trend,  
Tho' all of these sign-boards point but one way  
Down the slippery life-slope to physical decay,  
Yet ever triumphant the *heart* should be young,  
Tho' the faculties falter soul-songs should be sung—  
And here is a truth above all contradiction  
(And as we look on this group it becomes a conviction,)  
That the fairest of things—the most beautiful sign,  
Is the eternal spring just below the snow-line.

Then reenforced be our courage  
As we go down the grade,  
Let us think not of sorrow to-morrow,  
Nor look we to witness the evening star fade  
Or ever a heart trouble borrow.

So, let the crown of all beauties  
That the reason must sway,  
Be placed on the youthful  
Re-unionist today—  
The one who *feels* youngest  
The laurel should crown,  
For he's rising the slope  
As others go down.

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### HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

M. V. B. PERLEY, OF IPSWICH, MASS.

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The Historical Address, delivered by Mr. Perley, at a point in the literary exercises has been entirely rewritten and is printed herewith as a "History of the Academy." The structure of the address has, in preparation of history, been demolished, and the framework used as a receptacle of any and all obtainable facts having reference to the subject."

## REMINISCENT ADDRESS.

REV. GEO. L. GLEASON, OF HAVERHILL, MASS.

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Great interests are affected sometimes by trivial incidents. Great occasions are determined by seemingly insignificant events. This illustrious gathering once hinged upon the simple circumstance, that J. Warren Healy knew how to advertise. And this art he understood to perfection. Here, I desire to say in passing, that I agree with the historian of the day, in regarding J. Warren Healy as a most remarkable man. He was not a scholar, or man of literary culture. He never had time for thorough literary training. During his college course, he supported himself and wife, by teaching and preaching, and ever after he was engaged in the most intense service. Yet he was a peer of literary men, and for a time was the president of a university. For the same reason, he was not a profound theologian, still, he occupied some of the commanding pulpits of the Interior, and received the degree of D. D., from a respectable western college. No one would regard him as eminent for piety. Yet, he was called to the pastorate of Mr. Moody's church in Chicago, where spirituality was regarded as the prime factor. He occupied other important positions, and his whole career may be regarded as phenomenal. My acquaintance with Mr. Healy began in the autumn of 1853, and continued with more or less intimacy up to the time of his death. I have already remarked that Mr. Healy knew how to advertise. This was one of the secrets of his success. In the summer of '53, he announced to the youth of northern N. H., and Vt., that he had taken Bath Academy, and was prepared with an able corps of teachers, to give the best possible education, in the shortest possible time, and at the

least possible expense. This was the school we all wanted to attend. The youth of that day were in greater haste to get into their life work, even, than the young men and women of the present.

My older brother and myself, passed by an academy which we had previously attended, and which we knew to be well equipped and manned, and with sixty or eighty other youths in the autumn of '53, entered Bath Academy. We found it in an old dilapidated building, with no apparatus, and no provision for boarding the students. The able corps of teachers consisted of J. Warren Healy, A. B., as principal, Mrs. J. Warren Healy, as preceptress, and a small limb of the law as assistant. Mr. Healy soon became seriously ill, and the school was left to run itself. Here my real acquaintance with Mr. Healy began, for I was one of the students drafted into service as a watcher and then as a nurse. I found him to be a very irritable and uneasy patient, caused largely by the nature of his disease. And here I discovered another life-long obstacle with which he had to contend, physical infirmities which would have disheartened and paralyzed the endeavor, of on less brave and ambitious. The state of his health compelled him to abandon the school, about the middle of the fall term, and the most of the pupils left the academy. Here, first met Dan Wilkins, a typical Vermonter, though born on the east side of the Connecticut river. He was a man of unusual ability, his talent partaking of the nature of genius. Had he not lacked some of the moral elements, he would have been a great character. He followed Mr. Healy to Topsfield in the autumn of '54, and, I think, remained through the winter. He wrote me such glowing descriptions of the town and school, that I decided to join him in the fall of '55. He arranged to meet me at Middleton, as the trains did not connect so that I could reach Topsfield in a day. Vividly do I remember landing on the platform of the lonely station in Middleton, one hot, dusty afternoon in September, and looking in vain for my friend. If ever I experienced the sensation of homesickness, it was, when walking the dusty turnpike to Topsfield in company with a Miss Lake of that town. With Goldsmith's traveller, I "dragged with each remove a lengthening chain." The exaggerated

account of the town and people, and the school, by which I was entertained, did not reassure or comfort me. Here I should remark, that Wilkins had engaged to meet me at Middleton on a certain day, but I was detained, sent him a telegram in ample season, but it did not reach him until several days after I had been established as his room-mate, in the home of Mr. Israel Rea. The autumn of '55, passed without special incident. I devoted myself to earnest study, and sought to adjust myself to my new surroundings. But, at the beginning of the winter term, I became a member of Mr. Healy's family. It came about in this wise. On entering the academy, I sported a gold watch, chain and fob. This became the admiration of some, the envy of others, and the scorn of a third class. I did not feel quite at ease in this gorgeous array. But Mr. Healy seemed to covet the outfit, and we entered into the following written agreement, viz.: I, the party of the first part, covenanted to make over to him the watch, chain and fob; he, the party of the second part, agreed to furnish me with board a certain number of weeks, and tuition a certain number of terms. George Pierce of Marblehead, became my room-mate. He was then studying with reference to the Christian ministry. During this term some significant, and many amusing incidents occurred.

A prayer meeting was started in the academy, and Mr. Richardson the assistant teacher, invited me to attend and conduct the singing. It was at the first meeting that I decided to enter fully upon the religious life, and publicly declared my purpose. Thus was changed the whole current of my life. Others took a similar stand, and the whole school, for a time, was pervaded with a strong religious sentiment. My room-mate proposed, sometime during the winter, that we should try and correct each the others dialect and ungrammatical expressions; his speech, smacked of the sea, mine, of the mountains. This arrangement worked admirably for a time. It was a great advantage to see and hear ourselves, as another saw and heard us. But a rivalry arose, not altogether generous, I fear, as to who should detect the most faults, and soon there was a sting in the criticism, some irony, and more bitterness in our corrections and we

eventually lapsed into silence. After matters had come to such a pitch, we concluded to leave each, to correct his own faults of speech and conduct, and friendship was restored. The character of the board furnished us that winter was very unsatisfactory, the supply was not equal to the demand, and the quality was as objectionable as the quantity. Mrs. Healy was always overworked. With a single servant, she was expected to provide for her large and hungry family, and still do duty as preceptress in the academy, then at its height of popularity and attendance. Some of us were accustomed to supplement our meagre fare at the table, by a nocturnal visit to the kitchen. We had already secured the good-will of Ellen, the cook, and maid-of-all work, who aided and abetted our predatory warfare on the larder.

One evening, if so late an hour as 11 P. M. may be called evening, several of us were regaling ourselves with a sumptuous repast after our day's abstemiousness, when a ghost appeared upon the stairway, and the most of us were thrown into a state of consternation. But Ellen, who was always equal to the occasion, seized the ladle, and hastily filling it with cold water, discharged its full contents at the ghost as it vanished at the head of the stairs. A conspiracy of silence seemed to follow this occurrence, and it is with some hesitation, after forty-two years silence, that I give the facts to the public. Personally, I do not believe in ghosts. But I am sure in regard to this one. Like others it was arrayed in white. Like the typical ghost it remained silent. But unlike others, it came from above, went back to its own place, and never again appeared.

Sam. Fowler took his dinners at Mr. Healy's. One day Mrs. Healy had cut the two pies just so they would go round. She asked each of us in turn, which we would have, squash or apple. Our replies were governed, not by our tastes or the merits of the pies, but by the prospect of their holding out so as to go round. When Sam.'s turn came, he was equal to the occasion, and replied, "I will take a piece of both, if you please." Thus, some one had to go without, probably, Mrs. Healy.

It was during this winter, that George Pierce proposed a drive to Bradford, to spend the day. He suggested that it

#### REMINISCENT ADDRESS.

would improve our manners to go more into good society. The real object, however, was to visit Bradford Academy, and to see one Susan Perley, of Danvers, whom he had met, and of whom he was somewhat enamored. We secured a fine horse and sleigh, with a merry string of bells, of Frederic Merriam. But the horse proved to be a tearer. He started from the stable like a cannon ball, but unlike a cannon ball, his speed did not diminish as the distance increased. However, we reached our place of destination without incident. We called on Benjamin Greenleaf, whom we found a most genial, entertaining man; his daughters were equally engaging. I had conceived a decided prejudice against Mr. Greenleaf, because of his mathematical works, his algebra had been my special abhorrence. But ever after this I have "esteemed him very highly in love," for what he was, but not for "his works' sake." We spent the day very delightfully, and profitably, in company with the students of the academy, and towards night turned our faces homeward. But if the horse was eager to reach his place of destination in the morning, he now seemed frantic. It required all our energy to keep him under control. Soon the darkness shut down upon us. Another terror was soon added, for a blinding snow storm set in. All we could do was to hold on, sometimes with our combined force, and plunge into the gathering gloom. At one time, when the horse was at the height of his speed, and I was taking my turn at holding on, the sleigh gave a lurch to one side, and George rolled out. Summoning all my energy, I succeeded, in a seasonable time, in bringing the horse to a halt. George came up after a time, puffing and groaning, declaring that he feared his shoulder was dislocated. I asked him why he had got out? He said he feared the sleigh was going to tip over. I told him that never in the country were we accustomed to get out until we were sure of a tip-over. But he had incapacitated himself for "holding on," and I drove the remaining distance without further incident. It was to both of us a memorable day.

The assistant teachers in the Academy were men of rare ability and excellent character. I would gladly speak of each in turn, if time permitted. J. Henry Richardson was the assistant, in the years '55-6. I shall never cease to be gratified

that it was my lot to fall in with such a pure and noble character at this formative period of my life. He took me into his confidence and friendship. We walked, and talked, together, and became intimate companions. He invited me to go with him to Andover, where he had an engagement to sing as leader of the Episcopal choir. He took me to the Prof. Stowe, and introduced me to my subsequent musical teacher, and his then famous wife. He also invited me to go with him to North Reading, to attend a concert given by the Normal Musical Institute, which was under the direction of Lowell Mason and George F. Root. Webb played the organ, the most accomplished organist I had ever heard. He proposed to pay all the expenses, making the condition of my acceptance, that I should invite two young ladies whom he designated, Miss Georgie Dorman and Miss Mary Rea. We took tea at his home in Middleton, and his mother and two sisters accompanied us to the concert. Mary Rea afterwards became a pupil in this Institute, and was in the band that furnished the music at the Andover Theological Seminary anniversary. We sang the Hallelujah Chorus with great effect.

Some of my most pleasing reminiscences, are in connection with the families and homes of the citizens of Topsfield. I will confine my remarks strictly to my student days, and mention only two families, that of Mr. Benjamin Kimball and Mr. B. P. Adams. Sometimes, for months together, we spent an evening each week in the home of Mr. Kimball, the greater part of the time was passed in singing. Mr. Kimball had some of the most beautiful bass voices to which I ever listened. I have often thought that I never heard an alto voice, so sweet, as that of Miss Hattie's, in tenderness and sweetness. Miss Deborah, sang the contralto, and I carried the soprano. Miss Susie, no less musically gifted than the others, played at the piano. But they have all gone, and I have no longer any of them to sing with. There is sweeter music in heaven because of their presence. I shall always be gratified that it was my lot, as a mere lad, to be invited to such a genial musical home.

Mr. Adams was the post master and kept the village store. He was a very companionable man, and often took me for a drive, and frequently invited me to his home. I remember

when the new piano was purchased. After a little I was invited in to hear the children play. Mary acquitted herself greatly to the satisfaction of her mother, and her performance elicited general applause. But Mr. Adams was greatly interested in the playing of Bennie, who promised, as he thought, to be a musical genius. The little fellow climbed upon the music stool, and with two fingers, played "Peter, Peter, pumpkin eater, had a wife and couldnt keep her," in a manner which greatly delighted his fond parents. I joined heartily in the applause. I have since listened to the juvenile performance of many a promising musician, and shared the admiration of doting parents, but never did I carry away such a vivid picture, as that of little Bennie.

In those early days of my connection with the academy, the lyceum was in a most flourishing condition. The citizens took a deep interest in the debates, and some of them were participants. Mr. Samuel Hood, who was a most remarkable man, both in gifts, attainments, and the ability to state his convictions, the Adamses, Peabodys, Balches and others, took part in the debates. Occasionally Mr. McLoud came in, and when he and Mr. Healy were opponents, the sparks would fly, and excitement was great. One amusing incident occurred one evening, during one of the debates. Mr. Richardson, the assistant principal, was accustomed to wear a tall hat. He had just purchased a new one, and, for its careful preservation, he placed it on one of the seats. Mr. B. P. Adams came in, and sat down plump, on the new hat. It was ruined completely, and never again appeared on the street.

In the autumn of '56, occurred the Fremont campaign. The three Balches and myself, started a campaign quartette. Their voices were very heavy, and mine was comparatively weak, and seemed like a little purling stream in the meadow, by the side of three roaring Niagaras. But I contributed a campaign song, which was some compensation for my failure to be heard. We succeeded in carrying Topsfield, and Massachusetts, and, I think, New England, but not the whole country.

Dud Pearson and I, were accustomed to sing a good deal together. He had an excellent bass voice, of which I have many times heard during the last forty years. We made

several attempts to serenade our lady friends. I remember one evening in particular. We had made special preparation; it was a beautiful night, and we expected to elicit applause. He, could go very low and I, could manage up pretty high. We sang a song closing with the "Sleep, O ! sleep !" After doing our best, we listened for some response, but she slept, and slept !

I must content myself with a few incidents in our school life. Our rhetorical exercises Wednesday afternoons were frequent occasions. Mr. Healy was then at his best. His declaiming were often amusing, sometimes terrific. We had some good speakers. George Pierce, N. T. Kimball, Clarence Darrow and others, always commanded attention. Some attempts were conspicuous by their awkwardness and failures. One afternoon, Blaisdell, from Marblehead, declaimed a piece of reference was made to the advancement of civilization. He had taken his position at the extreme rear of the platform and when he came to this passage, he folded his arms and took several long and deliberate strides towards the front of the stage. When he was through, Mr. Healy pounced upon him. He said, "Blaisdell, didn't you know better than I would as soon think of sitting down on the stage to sonate the sun's setting, as to stride across the platform to represent the progress of civilization." We had some eminent writers among the young ladies. Georgie Dowdy always secured attention when she read her composition. She was a gifted girl and a most remarkable writer. Ellen Kimball, Addie Rea, and Julia Spiller, were always interesting. So also was little Lottie Perkins. We wondered how such a small a girl could write so large a composition.

Many incidents in our school life come to me with great vividness. I commenced the study of Greek, in company with Arthur Merriam and Helen McLoud. Arthur seemed to me to be more interested in Helen than in the Greek grammar. He later was a fine scholar. She sought to get hold of the principles of a new language by heart and learned the characters from sight. Never did I see one, whose classical insight I was more inclined to envy. Greek was to me, for a long time, a dead language. I had for our instructor Austin Hazen, a very youthful

most accomplished teacher, and withal, a most gifted and beautiful man. Coburn Porter was my classmate in geometry. He was a very modest youth, and his head seemed to be too far ahead of his shoulders. I do not remember that he ever spoke to me during the weeks we were together. But he always had his lessons. I thought then, and time has not greatly modified my opinion, that he was the most remarkable mathematician I had ever met. His figures on the board were faultless, and he never hesitated or tripped in the demonstration of his propositions. But as there is an end to all things, so must there be a close to these recollections. Graduation day came at last, and four of us young men left the academy to return no more. Sidney Merriam and N. T. Kimball went to Dartmouth College, and Sam. Fowler and I went to Amherst. I presume we all made eloquent and impressive addresses, but I do not recall them now. The music for the occasion was furnished by a quartette, composed of Mr. Allis, who had a fine bass voice, Mr. Sumner Perkins, Mr. Winslow, and myself. It was a success, and elicited hearty commendation, which was to me, a great satisfaction, for I had, from my connection with the academy, been identified with its musical interests.

One incident connected with the evening entertainment was both characteristic and amusing. It seemed to be a proper thing, for the young people to pair off at such an important epoch in their lives. Choice, instinct, and natural selection, helped in determining the selection, with the most of us. But none of these sentiments influenced Sam. Fowler. He waited until all the young ladies had been provided for, and took the one who was left. After he had walked a reasonable distance, he learned that the aforesaid young lady lived three miles away. Accordingly he plodded on in silence until he had gone, what he estimated, was half the distance, when he turned back with the remark, "You will get home as soon as I will, so I will bid you good night." Sam. is now living alone in one of his tenements in Danvers, and I am not informed that he has ever started to walk home with a young lady, since the memorable night of his graduation from Topsfield Academy.

Fellow schoolmates and friends of former years. This is

that it was my lot to fall in with such a pure and nob at this formative period of my life. He took me in confidence and friendship. We walked, and talked, a together, and became intimate companions. He invited me with him to Andover, where he had an engaged leader of the Episcopal choir. He took me to the Prof. Stowe, and introduced me to my subsequent theological teacher, and his then famous wife. He also invited me with him to North Reading, to attend a concert given by the Normal Musical Institute, which was under the direction of Lowell Mason and George F. Root. Webb pres the organ, the most accomplished organist I had ever heard. He proposed to pay all the expenses, making the condition of my acceptance, that I should invite two young whom he designated, Miss Georgie Dorman and Miss Rea. We took tea at his home in Middleton, and his brother and two sisters accompanied us to the concert. I afterwards became a pupil in this Institute, and was in the that furnished the music at the Andover Theological Society anniversary. We sang the Hallelujah Chorus with effect.

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Dud. Pearson and I, were accustomed to sing a good deal together. He had an excellent bass voice, of which I have many times heard during the last forty years. We made

several attempts to serenade our lady friends. I remember one evening in particular. We had made special preparation; it was a beautiful night, and we expected to elicit great applause. He, could go very low and I, could manage to get up pretty high. We sang a song closing with the words, "Sleep, O! sleep!" After doing our best, we listened for some response, but she slept, and slept!

I must content myself with a few incidents in our school life. Our rhetorical exercises Wednesday afternoons were great occasions. Mr. Healy was then at his best. His criticisms were often amusing, sometimes terrific. We had some good speakers. George Pierce, N. T. Kimball, Clarence Fowler, and others, always commanded attention. Some also were conspicuous by their awkwardness and failures. One afternoon, Blaisdell, from Marblehead, declaimed a piece in which reference was made to the advancement of civilization. He had taken his position at the extreme rear of the platform, and when he came to this passage, he folded his arms and took several long and deliberate strides towards the front of the stage. When he was through, Mr. Healy pounced upon him. He said, "Blaisdell, didn't you know better than that? I would as soon think of sitting down on the stage to personate the sun's setting, as to stride across the platform to represent the progress of civilization." We had some excellent writers among the young ladies. Georgie Dorman always secured attention when she read her composition. She was a gifted girl and a most remarkable writer. Ellen Kimball, Addie Rea, and Julia Spiller, were always interesting. So also was little Lottie Perkins. We wondered how so small a girl could write so large a composition.

Many incidents in our school life come to me with great vividness. I commenced the study of Greek, in company with Arthur Merriam and Helen McLoud. Arthur always seemed to me to be more interested in Helen than in his Greek grammar. He later was a fine scholar. She seemed to get hold of the principles of a new language by instinct, and learned the characters from sight. Never did I meet one, whose classical insight I was more inclined to envy, for Greek was to me, for a long time, a dead language. We had for our instructor Austin Hazen, a very youthful but

most accomplished teacher, and withal, a most gifted and beautiful man. Coburn Porter was my classmate in geometry. He was a very modest youth, and his head seemed to be too far ahead of his shoulders. I do not remember that he ever spoke to me during the weeks we were together. But he always had his lessons. I thought then, and time has not greatly modified my opinion, that he was the most remarkable mathematician I had ever met. His figures on the board were faultless, and he never hesitated or tripped in the demonstration of his propositions. But as there is an end to all things, so must there be a close to these recollections. Graduation day came at last, and four of us young men left the academy to return no more. Sidney Merriam and N. T. Kimball went to Dartmouth College, and Sam. Fowler and I went to Amherst. I presume we all made eloquent and impressive addresses, but I do not recall them now. The music for the occasion was furnished by a quartette, composed of Mr. Allis, who had a fine bass voice, Mr. Sumner Perkins, Mr. Winslow, and myself. It was a success, and elicited hearty commendation, which was to me, a great satisfaction, for I had, from my connection with the academy, been identified with its musical interests.

One incident connected with the evening entertainment was both characteristic and amusing. It seemed to be a proper thing, for the young people to pair off at such an important epoch in their lives. Choice, instinct, and natural selection, helped in determining the selection, with the most of us. But none of these sentiments influenced Sam. Fowler. He waited until all the young ladies had been provided for, and took the one who was left. After he had walked a reasonable distance, he learned that the aforesaid young lady lived three miles away. Accordingly he plodded on in silence until he had gone, what he estimated, was half the distance, when he turned back with the remark, "You will get home as soon as I will, so I will bid you good night." Sam. is now living alone in one of his tenements in Danvers, and I am not informed that he has ever started to walk home with a young lady, since the memorable night of his graduation from Topsfield Academy.

Fellow schoolmates and friends of former years. This is

one of the most memorable and delightful occasions of lives. This faultless summer day, is an emblem of the shine and gladness in our hearts. The most pleasing recollections, come thronging back to our memories, and w<sup>e</sup> over again the joys of our youthful days. Faces wre<sup>d</sup> with smiles, come out of the shadows of the past. Friends once so dear to us, long since passed within the veil, before us in glad review. The chain of friendship, se<sup>t</sup> by a period of forty years, is now reunited, never again sundered, not even by death. The lines of toil, and care, age, and perchance of suffering, are furrowed in our faces, but still the lineaments of youth remain. But our hearts are as youthful, and beat with as cordial sympathy for each other, and loving loyalty for the old Academy, as when we parted, nearly half a century ago. Do not our hearts beat within us, as we here review, 'mid smiles and tears, the procession of the years.

## ADDRESS.

JUDGE ISRAEL W. ANDREWS, OF DANVERS, MASS.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

I had rather be excused, than, at this late hour, endeavor to interest you with what I might have to say, but, for the few minutes allowed, I shall have to amputate the speech I should ordinarily make, and so perhaps you will remain until I am done.

Yes, I was a student of Topsfield Academy in 1840-41, and I remember well, and with great pleasure, many of the associations of that day.

It happened on election day, that I was allowed the privilege of waiting upon a young lady. It seems that there was a decided objection, on the part of Mr. Healy, in regard to the young men waiting upon young ladies, and that reminds me of a little incident that occurred in New Hampshire. I went there to school before I came here. It was a Baptist Theological School and Academy—of course I went to the Academy. My father was a minister, but I never had any inclination in that direction. In fact, from what I have seen sometimes, I have thought that a theological education could be well dispensed with, even by our ministers.

I was going to say, that in this incident I met a Professor gallanting around with two young ladies, and he, the next morning, gave me a very severe reprimand for being out—it was Sunday.

Well, it afterwards happened that I was waiting upon a young lady, and as soon as it was discovered, I was promptly called before the Board, and asked if I did not know the rules of the school. I replied that I knew them all very well. "Well," said the Professor, who was also the President, "it is against the rules of the school, for a young man to wait upon

a young lady." I asked him if it was any more against the rules of the school, for a young man to wait upon a young lady, than it was for a professor. The result was that I was finally suspended, but not for that reason alone, however.

But to be serious. I have a single word more to add. I would like to say to all who hear me, that, ahead of wonderful achievements, there is a depth of thought—a vastness in the direction of man's investigation of true study.

I wrote a lecture once, or tried to, and thought I did, upon, "What Constitutes Good Scholarship, or, a Student's Work, and What He Should Do." That lecture is somewhere around the house now. I have not seen it for many years, although I have a lot of books and other collections, and presume it is there, but I think, that in view of the vastness of the problems that are arising, that our school education is becoming comparatively of little importance. I say this, and I say more—I think myself, that the academical institution, is the equal, if not the superior, of our high schools. And it is not because I am in the least prejudiced. It is simply what I have thought from my experience.

Now, we have a high school in Danvers, and the people of Topsfield have become acquainted with the course pursued, as they have sent a number of their children there.

I think there was more freedom of thought, in the academical institution, and thereby securing, better scholars than we get now. At the present time they are full of frivolous matters, and sometimes those that are dangerous to their own health, and to the character of humanity.

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## ADDRESS.

REV. ALFRED NOON, OF BOSTON, MASS.

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It is difficult to conceive how my name was discovered upon the annals of the Academy, and it must have necessitated a very close scrutiny, on the part of the Secretary, to identify the name with the present speaker.

An effort was made the other day to ascertain how it came about that I was a student of the Academy. Some of you may remember the occasion of my being here, was, because I was a boy living away from home with Rev. Stephen Hiler, who came from the old Batchelder place, up town and occupy, for a few months, the pulpit of the Methodist church and the Methodist parsonage.

During that time, somehow, I seemed to have been enrolled as a student in the Academy, possibly to relieve Mr. Sumner Perkins, who was then teaching the Centre school here on the green. There are two or three reminiscences connected with these years that come to me.

There were a good many people in the town who differed from some of us. We all have our notions, but they differed from us in publicly acknowledging theirs. One Sunday, the bell of the Congregational church, of the Methodist church, and of the old Academy, all rang for religious services. It seems that in a few hours the people expected the world to come to an end. They made a mistake, however, as we all do, frequently, in these days. The occurrence will be one a great many of the residents will recall.

I remember well, the lessons in geography, at the Academy, taught by Mrs. Healy, I think, and what interesting times we had, studying the well remembered wall maps. I was one of the younger students, and remember my experience

ences in learning long division, when we would work some simple example, and make it nearly as long as ourselves.

I did not have time to look up the old catalogue of the Academy in my private library, and hunt up the list of the names of my fellow students, but here, today, I am meeting many of them, and have renewed old acquaintances and friendships. I am very glad of the opportunity of seeing, today, the students of the time-honored Topsfield Academy.

### SENTIMENT.

EUGENE TAPPAN, ESQ., OF BOSTON, MASS.

Mr. Tappan offered the following sentiment, time not permitting an intended address:—

"I prize Topsfield Academy, for cultivating a love of Nature, a spirit of original investigation, and a taste for literature."

## AULD LANG SYNE.

### *Parting Song.*

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind ;  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And songs of auld lang syne.  
For auld lang syne we meet to-day,  
For auld lang syne ;  
To sing the songs our fathers sang  
In days of auld lang syne.

We've passed through many varied scenes,  
Since youth's unclouded day ;  
And friends, and hopes, and happy dreams,  
Time's hand has swept away ;  
And voices that once joined with ours,  
In days of auld lang syne,  
Are silent now, and blend no more  
In songs of auld lang syne.

Here we have met, here we may part  
To meet on earth no more ;  
And we may never sing again  
The cherished songs of yore ;  
The sacred songs our fathers sang,  
In days of auld lang syne ;  
We may not meet to sing again  
The songs of auld lang syne.

But when we've crossed the sea of life,  
And reach the heav'nly shore,  
We'll sing the songs our fathers sing,  
Transcending those of yore ;  
We'll meet to sing diviner strains  
Than those of auld lang syne ;  
Immortal songs of praise unknown  
In days of auld lang syne.

## LETTERS RECEIVED.

Among the many Letters received from former teachers and students, the following have been selected as having historical or biographical interest.

LITTLE BOAR'S HEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

MR. GEO. F. DOW,

July 14, 1897.

Com. Topsfield Historical Society.

*Dear Sir:*—I am in receipt of your kind favor of the 10th inst., inviting me to be present at the reunion of the teachers and students of Topsfield Academy. I regret to say, it will not be practicable for me to be present on that interesting occasion. The year ending 55 years ago, which I passed as Principal of the Academy, is one full of pleasant memories. Among the students, there were many young men and young women, who went forth to occupy important and useful stations in life. Among others, Orne and Bomer; the former died young, the latter became a successful physician in Ipswich, Massachusetts, and died respected and honored in the middle of a promising career; Augustus Perkins, now in full practice in the medical profession in the city of Boston; Bartlett, for some years a successful physician, later engaged in business, now residing in Brookline, Massachusetts, in the enjoyment of a well earned *otium cum dignitate*; Gould, many years an able and accomplished teacher, and afterward a merchant in the city of Boston. There were others of whose career I know less; John Friend is remembered for his marvellous ability in

mathematics. There were Ives, and Reed, and Bradstreet, and Ruggles, all loyal and devoted students.

I regret deeply that I shall not be able to be with you at the reunion. But my heart and sympathies will be there, and I cannot doubt that the occasion will be one of great satisfaction and pleasure.

Believe me very truly yours,

EDMUND F. SLAFORD.

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WATERLOO, IOWA, JULY 22, 1881.

MR. GEO. FR. DOW,

*Dear Sir:*—Your note of request to furnish some reminiscences of Topsfield Academy, for the reunion, on Aug. 12, was duly received. My introduction to Topsfield Academy was in the spring of 1830.

Principal Vose was a man of forty-five or fifty years, a judge, and Miss Ann Cofran, the Preceptress, of perhaps thirty-five or forty years. They were both very sedate, and very devout, and the religious character of the school was always prominent.

The young gentlemen occupied the lower, and the young ladies the upper room; but at morning and evening prayer, rhetorical exercises, etc., all went into the upper room, which was divided strictly by an invisible, but effective line between the two sexes. If there was any whispering or noise during prayer time, Mr. Vose could, with great facility, open his eyes and look around the room, without interrupting the thread of his petition. But the general decorum of the school was good, and he was seldom disturbed in this way. Though he was a college graduate, and an A. M., Mr. Vose was not a very thorough scholar, especially in Latin.

In his Latin class were the late Rev. Josiah Peabody, missionary to Persia, and the Rev. W. A. Peabody, Professor of Latin in Amherst College, where he died in less than a year.

after his inauguration. They frequently had occasion to ask some question about the lesson, which the teacher generally informed them he would "look up," but which the pupils seldom, if ever, heard of again.

I believe I was something of a favorite with Mr. Vose; for he used to call on me frequently to hear a class recite, and to help him in other ways. He had one particularly fractious boy, whom he often found it difficult to manage. The master was not a very genial man, and was, by nature, quick tempered, which made it all the more difficult for him to get on pleasantly with the aforesaid boy. On one occasion, the lad was unusually obstinate, and I was placed in the seat behind him to watch and guard him. He was still much more inclined to have his own way than to yield to authority; and when the Principal came to castigate him, he rose up, with a ruler in his hand, to strike back, and might have dealt the harder blow of the two, if I had not caught his hand and restrained him.

At another time, the boy was outside the house and refused to come in at the bidding of the master; when we were required to bring him in by main strength. The boy started at the top of his speed, and we after him, and were obliged to take him by his arms and legs, and force him into the hall of learning. It did not take me fifty years to decide, that this sort of pedagogy had entirely too much of the corporeal in it, and that it was about as much of a punishment to the boys who caught the rogue, as to him who was caught. That intractable boy is now, I learn, a practising lawyer in Boston.

But in spite of these unpleasant incidents, the general drift of things at the Academy was pleasant and profitable. The instruction was not of a high order, as compared with the present standard in academies and high schools; but it was much better than nothing, and prepared the way for higher and better things. There were certainly some very choice spirits in Topsfield Academy, at the time of which I am writing, especially in the upper room, with whom we were allowed to have but little intercourse. Out of school hours we were more free and familiar, and when we met to sing, and to prepare for exhibition, at the close of the term, we were quite social. The program, on one of these occasions, was

a very choice one, and I distinctly remember some of themes, and who wrote upon them. My own was the poetical one of "Self-knowledge," founded on Pope's famous line, "Man, know thyself, all wisdom centres here," was treated in the pompous style of the famous "Essays of Man." One of the young ladies had for a motto, the perfectly beautiful lines of Goldsmith:—

"Vain, very vain, my weary search to find  
The bliss which centers only in the mind."

Some of our rides and rambles on Saturday afternoons over the hills and through the valleys, were charming, and retain their delectable fragrance as fresh as ever. Several of those who shared them have gone to join the majority in *penetrare ad plures*, even in Plutarch's time,—but some remain, whom it would be a pleasure to greet, if such a pleasure were permitted. I may be permitted to name especially among the living, the venerable and honored Prof. H. C. Sanborn, of Dartmouth College, Rev. George Hood, Rev. Benjamin How, Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Towne, of Topsfield, Mrs. Clara W. Rose, and Mrs. Eliza F. Stone, of Saugus, Mrs. Catharine W. Cook, of Andover, Mrs. Susan N. Terrell, of Georgetown, and others. One of the "others," Mrs. N. Black, of Danvers, I had the singular pleasure of meeting two years ago, at the house of her sister, in the city where she resides, whom I had not seen for almost fifty years. We were seated together at the head of the table, of course, as the oldest of the company, though it did not seem so to us, at that day, that we were very old, as indeed we are not. It was a rare treat to run over the names and history of those who were young, and full of hope, when we were also young, some of whom are now gone to the other side of the river.

"My eyes are dim with childish tears,  
My heart is idly stirred,  
For the same sound is in my ears,  
Which in those days I heard.

Thus fares it still in our decay,  
And yet the wiser mind  
Mourns less for what age takes away,  
Than what it leaves behind.

But we are pressed by heavy laws,  
And often,—glad no more,—  
We wear a face of joy, because  
We have been glad of yore."

I hope and trust you will have a pleasant and profitable time at the reunion, and would remain,

Very truly yours,

M. K. CROSS.

THE CHELSEA.

222 W. Twenty-Third St., New York.

MR. GEO. FRS. DOW, AND

Aug. 3, '97.

COMMITTEE OF THE TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

Gentlemen:—Although I have not received from you a circular concerning the coming celebration of Topsfield Academy, I have seen one addressed to my brother, Julius A. Palmer, of Boston, and I take the liberty to write to you concerning my brief connection with the time honored institution which you represent.

I think it was *about* the year 1846, that I was a pupil at the Academy for a period of six weeks. It was in the spring, I am not sure of the year. I remember the names of two of my companions at the Academy, one was Cyrus Killam, who afterwards had his name changed, by Act of General Court, to Bartlett, his mother's name. He became Dr. Bartlett, was with Dr. Earle, as Assistant Superintendent of Insane Asylum, at Northampton, Mass., and afterward Superintendent, Insane Asylum, St. Peter, Minnesota. He was of Boxford. Another was Wm. Augustus Herrick, of

Boxford, afterwards, for many years, a Boston lawyer. My family lived in Boston and Boxford.

At the time when I attended the Academy, I lived with my grandfather, Major Jacob Peabody, at Boxford, E. Parish. I usually rode to Topsfield in the morning and walked back to Boxford in the afternoon. I rode on the Haverhill and Salem Stage Coach, driven by Mr. Pinkham and Mr. Hilliard. The teacher's name I do not remember, but I liked him. He had about 40 pupils, but receiving a call to a larger field, he left us, and the Academy was abruptly closed, much to my regret.

I am, dear sirs, very truly yours,

JACOB P. PALMER.

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53 LEONARD ST., NEW YORK.

MR. GEO. FR. DOW, COM.

Aug. 9th, 1897.

*Dear Sir:*—I regret that imperative engagements prevent my attendance at the reunion of the Academy scholars, on the 12th.

Your invitation brings back a flood of memories, and a longing to see, once again, those whose names are familiar, but whom I have met very seldom, if at all, in these long forty years. In infrequent visits to my native town of Boxford, I always look from the train to see the old Academy building, and wonder if its interior is still as familiar as its outward identity.

Very heartily, I send an individual greeting to each of my old schoolmates, wishing for the privilege of looking again into the faces which the years must have changed as much as they have changed mine. I wish more heartily that the paths which have been so strange; and so different; and so separated; may all enter at last, "into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." "The wish came—it hath passed into a prayer."

Sincerely yours,

M. H. DORMAN.

MANNHEIM, GERMANY.

Aug. 2, 1897.

TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY:—

I have just received your kind invitation, to be present at the reunion of the Teachers and Students, on the 12th inst. I should gladly like to be with you, and grasp the hands of friends of long years ago, and review again the scenes to which I often fondly revert. It is impossible for me to be with you, but I wish you a hearty good time, and Topsfield Academy—may it long live and prosper.

Very truly yours,

MYRON R. HUTCHINSON.

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Letters were also received from Rev. Charles M. Pierce, of Auburn, Mass.; Rev. George Hardy, of Sanquoit, N. Y.; Rev. Hiram B. Putnam, of Derry, N. H.; Daniel S. Balch, of Lyons, Iowa; Samuel L. Sawyer, of Danvers, Mass.; Mrs. Sarah (McMillan) Parsons, of Derry, N. H.; Rev. A. B. Peabody, of Boxborough, Mass.; Dean Peabody, Esq., of Lynn, Mass., and many others.

## A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF DR. ROYAL A. MERRIAM.

BY JUSTIN ALLEN, M. D.

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Among the subjects proper to be considered by a local historical society, that of the old-time country physician occupies a prominent place. He was an important personage in the town. Great responsibilities rested upon him. Vast interests depended upon his wise and judicious action. The health and lives of the people were committed to his hands. From the beginning of one's earthly existence to its close, the physician was looked to, to preserve life and health, to ward off disease, to relieve the sick when disease had fastened upon him, to soothe and comfort when medical art failed, and to stand by at the last and administer whatever help was in his power. Through infancy, childhood, manhood, and age, it was the part of the physician to safeguard the lives and health of the people among whom he lived.

In the eighteenth century and in the early part of the present century, the medical profession was, as has been well described, a "conscientious vocation," and less a business or trade than in later times. The physician was held in high esteem and occupied a high social position in society. He was considered a learned and enlightened member of the community and was respected as such. He had the confidence of the people among whom he labored, who trusted in his skill and gave him their support and gratitude. He mingled with the people more than any other person, was present at all seasons that make up the varied experiences of life, participated in their joys, and sympathized with them in their sorrows.

It is the purpose of this sketch to give the salient features in the life of Dr. Royal A. Merriam, who was a native of this village and who spent the most of his life in this community as a practicing physician. The data from which to prepare the paper are not as full as could be desired, especially those relating to his early history, and therefore it must necessarily be imperfect.

Dr. Merriam came of good stock, the Merriam family of Concord, Mass. Joseph Merriam was the first inhabitant of that name and evidently one of the first settlers of the town. The ancestry of the family has been traced back to William Merriam, of Kentstine, in England, who was born about 1580, and died in 1635 in his native land. William's three sons, Joseph, George, and Robert, came to New England and settled in Concord in 1636.

The Topsfield family trace their descent from Joseph Merriam, the emigrant. The lineage runs thus:—Joseph Merriam<sup>1</sup>; John Merriam<sup>2</sup>, born 1641; John Merriam<sup>3</sup>, born 1666; John Merriam<sup>4</sup>, born 1692; John Merriam<sup>5</sup>, born 1719-20 O.S.; John Merriam<sup>6</sup>, born 1758; Royal A. Merriam<sup>7</sup>, born 1786. Dr. Merriam's mother, Hannah Jones Merriam, was a descendant of Nathaniel Jones, of an old and respected family of Middlesex County.

Dr. John Merriam, the father of the subject of this sketch, studied medicine in Charlton and was licensed to practice by the Medical Association of Worcester County. He married Hannah Jones, of Charlton, "a help-meet true", as records say, Sept. 23, 1782, the marriage ceremony being performed by the Rev. Joshua Johnson, of Woodstock, Conn. He came to Topsfield and established himself in practice Dec. 1783. March 31, 1784, he bought of Daniel Hood, a house-wright by trade, the house where Mr. Hood lived, known to a past generation as the residence of the late Maj. Nathaniel Conant, where he took up his residence.

Feb. 11, 1796, Dr Merriam purchased of Thomas Foster, a farmer of Topsfield, 12½ acres of land at the corner of Ipswich and Haverhill Streets, extending back to the Batchelder farm. On this spot he erected the house that stands there at the present time. The house was probably built soon after the purchase of the site, for he sold the Conant

house, Oct. 9, 1797, to Daniel Perkins, a resident

Dr. John Merriam was well prepared for the w  
profession, as the times then were. His medical li  
large for those days. From entries made in his o  
writing in books of his library, it would appear  
studies preparatory to the study of medicine were  
able, and that he had some knowledge of Latin.  
no record of his school days, but it may be presu  
he had the advantages that other young men enjo  
might have received instruction from an educated  
fore taking up his medical studies. From what w  
him it is certain that he stood high as a medical pra  
and that he had the respect of his patrons and of  
munity in general. He had a large practice, that  
into the adjoining towns.

As was often the case in those days, with t  
try physician, he gave some attention to the cult  
the land. He acquired property and left a co  
estate, and a name that has been handed down with

Dr. Merriam died of consumption, Nov. 21, 18

age of 59 years.

Dr. Royal A. Merriam was born in the Conant  
Jan. 30th, 1786. There is little to be found on recd  
early life. But we can easily conceive of him in  
hood and youth as taking an active part in the affai  
small farm, assisting in the care of the animals, p  
the ground in spring-time, for the seed, planting, cu  
the growing crops, and harvesting. Robust, stro  
athletic, he took part in the sports of the time. T  
cle, polo, and the pseudo-chase were unknown in h  
but ball playing, coasting and skating were practic  
known that he was an expert skater and excelled in s  
difficult manoeuvres of the sport. There is nothing  
on record in relation to his early school days. D  
he attended the centre school and there learned t  
ments of the branches taught in the common school.

He might have received instruction, preparatory  
lege, from his father, who, as we have seen, was qua  
give it;—or from Jacob Kimball, a college graduat  
taught the centre school, and who appears to have

intimate friend of the family;—or, he might have studied with Mr. Huntington, the minister of the place, as it was common in those days for the clergyman of the parish to prepare young men for college. He attended school in a neighboring town, probably Andover, for how long a time is unknown, where he could see the steeple of the Topsfield church in his walks upon a hill near by.

Dr. Merriam entered Dartmouth College in the freshman year of 1804-5. He graduated in 1808. Nothing further can be given of his residence at Hanover, unless we except a letter from his mother, written in 1805, in which she expressed the hope that he would "always pursue the ways of virtue and holiness, and make such improvements in his studies as" would "render him a useful member of society."

Among his teachers at Dartmouth, were the President of the college, Rev. John Wheelock, S. T. D., LL. D., an able man, possessing marked traits of character in various ways, and the learned and scholarly Roswell Shurtleff, S. T. D.

Francis Brown, President of the college from 1815 until his death in 1820, was a tutor when Merriam was a student;—distinguished for genius, character and culture, as was also Frederick Hall, M. D., LL. D., afterwards a professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, and a college president.

His class numbered forty, of whom three became members of Congress; namely, Ichabod Bartlett, Isaac Fletcher, and George Grennell. Four were physicians; seven, clergymen; and of lawyers, a much larger number.

As a young man's acquaintances and associates have an educational influence upon him, it may not be inappropriate to mention some members of other classes whom he must have known more or less intimately: Richard Fletcher and Matthew Harvey, distinguished lawyers and jurists; Lemuel H. Arnold, Albion K. Parris, and Levi Woodbury, Governors of States, the latter Secretary of the Navy and of the Treasury; George Ticknor, author of the History of Spanish Literature; Amos Kendall, Postmaster-General; and Joel Parker, of N. H., and Ether Shepley, of Maine, each Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of their respective States. Judge Cummins, of Topsfield, was in college with him, grad-

uating in 1806. It would appear that he availed himself of all the opportunities offered in his day for a medical education. The son of a physician in active practice he could not fail to profit by the association. He studied medicine at the Dartmouth Medical School, under Dr. Nathan Smith, the founder of the school, one of the most eminent physicians of his time. He saw something in a medical student in the no less distinguished Dr. Reuben D. Mussey, of whom I used to hear him speak. He received from his *mater* the degree of M. B., in 1811, and that of M. D. in 1820. He became a member of the Mass. Medical Society in 1832. In Jan., 1812, Dr. Merriam commenced the practice of medicine in Middleton. While in Middleton he made friendships that lasted during his life. He had a considerable practice there, especially in typhoid fever. In 1813 he returned to Topsfield. His short stay in Middleton was easily accounted for by the fact that his father was failing health, and had been somewhat of an invalid for several years. He continued here in the practice of his profession from 1813 to 1823.

Looking for a larger field of action he went to Marblehead, where he established himself and remained nine years. The old residents of Marblehead, who remember him, speak of him in high terms of respect.

Returning to his native town in 1832, he occupied the house where he ever afterward lived. He loved and was greatly attached to his native town. When living in other places he always looked to Topsfield as his home, although he was pleasantly situated in Marblehead. He did not feel at home there, and when he became settled in Topsfield, he was most happy in the change. He was favorably received by the people and entered upon a successful practice.

This narrative of Dr. Merriam would not be complete without allusion to his sister, Almira Merriam. She made their home pleasant and attractive and contributed much comfort and enjoyment while she lived. A close friendship existed between the brother and sister. She was a woman who was held in the highest esteem for her virtues and estimable traits of character. She had a cultivated mind,

was a fine writer and possessed no inconsiderable share of literary ability as her letters extant will testify. She died of consumption early in the year 1839.

Dr. Merriam married Adeline, daughter of Nathaniel Marsh, of Newburyport, at N., March 12th, 1839. Mrs. Merriam was a most estimable woman, possessing all the traits of character that go to adorn a life of usefulness and high endeavor. Of their two sons, Sidney A. (Dart., 1861) died in 1876, unmarried. Arthur M. is a resident of Manchester, Mass. A grandson, Arthur, continues the name in the ninth generation.

Dr. Merriam came upon the stage of action when the medical delusions and superstitions of the dark ages were giving place to scientific teaching. Bishop Berkeley's tar water, Perkins' tractors, the jaw bone of a dog for hydrophobia, were exploded as specific remedies. Theory was losing its hold upon medical thought. Observation was coming to the front as the proper means preliminary to a rational treatment of disease. The Doctor had had the best teaching of the day. His library was well supplied with standard works, such as the writings of Sir Astley Cooper, Laennec, Abernethy, Brodie, Bichat, Louis, and volumes of a later date as they were published. The New England Magazine of Medicine and Surgery, from 1812 to 1828, in bound volumes, was a part of his library that has been preserved. These works have important passages marked, showing that they were carefully read and studied.

As far as authentic evidence goes, we may conclude that he was well equipped for the practice of his profession as it existed in the first half of the present century.

He practiced extensively in Topsfield and in neighboring towns. In his relations with the sick he brought a scrupulous regard for his professional duties and responsibilities. In the care and treatment of his patients he carefully investigated the disease, and formed his opinions deliberately and with confidence in his conclusions. That confidence was reciprocated by those who entrusted their bodily interests to his care:—a general good understanding between physician and patient was the result.

Surgery was his specialty. He attended the cases of

surgery that usually occur in general practice and performed the more important operations, as the amputation of limbs and operations for cataract. He proceeded in an operation with self-possession, calmly, without apparent excitement or emotion. Some lookers-on unused to sights in surgery might have thought him harsh, but without sufficient reason therefor.

His deportment in the sick room was dignified, calm, and cheerful. He was kind and sympathetic;—his demeanor and courtly bearing such as to command respect, and inspire confidence in his ministrations. His cheerful manner and encouraging words raised the spirits of the sick, and hope took the place of despondency, which is often more conducive than drugs to the well-being of the patient. The saying of the wise man might have been applied to him:—"a merry heart doeth good like a medicine." The encouragement that he gave his patients and the inspiration of hope, were important aids to carry them through a severe and protracted sickness. He recognized the fact that hope acted as a stimulus in restoring the sufferer to health. He believed in the modern doctrine of the "*vis medicatrix naturae;*"—the agency of the vital powers to throw off disease and restore the system to its normal healthful condition. In this he was in advance of the medical opinion of his time.

He was interested in his patients and felt the responsibility of his position as a medical attendant;—and possessed, in a high degree, the esteem and confidence of the families among whom he practiced. His patrons, of whom some remain, have been wont to speak of him in terms of respect, and expressive of their appreciation of his medical skill.

He made no lavish use of drugs. The liberal use of active remedies, that was considered legitimate and indispensable in his early life, was not followed by him, at least in his later years. And although he did not discountenance a proper measure of medication as occasion required, he could carry in his vest pocket all the remedies he deemed sufficient, ordinarily, to prescribe. He remarked to me that he could meet the ordinary requirements of practice, with four articles, namely:—Calomel, Antimony, Opium, and Iron or Peruvian Bark. In the treatment of disease and in the care

of the sick he exercised sound common sense, which is often of more practical use than drugs.

An incident of his professional career was the having medical students,—who read his books, accompanied him in his rounds, and listened to his observations upon disease,—thereby acquiring knowledge and training to enter upon the work of their profession.

Dr. Merriam's attention was not confined to medicine exclusively. He was interested in public affairs, and active as a public man, holding offices of trust in the town, and as a member of associations, industrial, philanthropic, and social. He was often called to serve the town, probably no citizen more often, in various trusts. He held the offices of Selectman, Overseer of the Poor, School Teacher, School Committee, and Superintendent of Schools, and was selected to serve on committees in the more important crises of town affairs.

He was elected twenty-two years a member of the school committee, and probably always its chairman, excepting when he served as superintendent. He must have devoted considerable time and thought to the duties of the office.

All accounts give evidence of his interest in education, common school, and academic. When the Topsfield Academy was founded he was a resident of Marblehead. But he came up from Marblehead and was present at the house of Jacob Towne, Esq., the evening of the day when the trustees met to elect a principal of the Institution, and chose Mr. Vose. And after he returned to reside in the town, a few years later, he had the Academy much upon his mind. He entertained the teacher, and sometimes had him as an inmate of his family.

From the annual reports of the school committee, when he was a member, doubtless all drawn up by Dr. Merriam, we learn the history of the schools; his views on their proper management, on discipline, absenteeism, truancy, deportment, the duties of parents in relation to the schools, as well as his style of writing. Some extracts from the reports will best illustrate his views upon these subjects. It will be seen that he was not backward to criticize, to observe and name faults that appeared, and to refer to the failings of

scholars and teachers, as well as to commend their points.

Extracts from school report of 1838-9:—

"The committee have endeavored to follow the state nearly as circumstances would allow, by visiting and exerting such supervision as the law enjoins. In these visits the majority of the committee have been present at the commencement and close of each school, and once or about the middle of such terms, as were between three and four months in length, making their visits about a month. The Summer Schools, taught by females, gave general satisfaction to Parents and Committee, at least no complaints of dissatisfaction have come to the knowledge of the Committee. The smaller class of pupils, taught by males, gave very honorable evidence of having had the industrious best efforts of their teachers. Improvement was clearly evident in each, and although there may have been some slight difference, yet the Committee will forbear to mark any distinction."

Winter Schools.—The Centre School "was not so well attended as in years previous, there being a private Female School kept in the vicinity, but it was this year sufficiently large for one Teacher profitably to attend to. This School was noted for the promptness and accuracy with which the scholars answered questions in Arithmetic and Geography. The Committee noticed with great pleasure the good order and discipline, which has in some years previous, been a subject of complaint. There was no marring or injury done to the buildings, not even a pane of glass broken for the whole year. The common courtesies and civilities of life were observed to have received attention in this school, which was very acceptable to the committee, and they think if they were generally taught in schools, it would not be time mis-spent. The improvement in reading and writing was not so conspicuous, although some very honorable exceptions should be made in both of these branches, and as a whole, the Committee had reason to be satisfied with the school."

The North School "was better sustained, as regards numbers, than in former years. Answers were promptly given,

readily given in the several branches of study, and there appeared an unusual degree of intelligence and understanding, in the larger scholars of this school. Some specimens of composition and elocution were given, which were certainly not discreditable for first efforts. Arithmetic was the branch in which the older boys excelled, and Geography and Grammar, the girls. The most noticeable defect in this school was of voice and distinct enunciation. The order was good."

"The East School commenced with very flattering prospects. At the first examination the school was unusually full, 35 in number, comprising a large number of large scholars, who seemed ardent in the pursuit of knowledge, but, probably owing to the inexperience of the Teacher, having never taught before, there was a failure in a perfect control over the school. Some left for other schools, and other large scholars left because they did not feel able to spend more time, and at the last examination the school was very small, 13 only being present. The committee were satisfied with the proficiency of those that were present."

"The South School commenced with good promise, and was well sustained. The committee had no hesitation in pronouncing their full and unqualified satisfaction of the progress of the scholars, in all the various branches which had been attended to, and gave ample evidence of the industry and faithfulness of the Teacher. The school excelled in writing, and as a whole, was not surpassed by any other school in town."

"The schools, as a whole, have, in the opinion of the committee, made improvement on former years. More interest is taken, both by parents and scholars. The attendance has been better than in years past. The scholars are not so backward in attending on examination days. The committee have used their best efforts to manage such attendance, by treating them with more familiarity, and in a friendly manner, and are very happy to be able to say, that their efforts have been successful."

From Report of 1842-3:—

"Sept. 20.—Visited Centre School—40 scholars. The school had advanced somewhat on former visitations, but was not what it ought to have been. There was too much evidence

that good order had not been maintained. There was a want of books, partly from neglect, not having them at school, and partly from deficiency. The reading was bad, spelling not good; writing bad from carelessness and a want of fitness of the copies given them by the teacher; arithmetic not good; geography and history pretty good. One of the largest girls in school was idle and disobedient, not heeding the orders of the teacher. The teacher appeared to have given her best efforts to the work of teaching, but her disposition was too amiable and indulgent, to enforce order and obedience."

North School, Winter Term:—

"This school was found in a healthy condition, the attention and order were good, the interest between the teachers and scholars reciprocal. There was no appearance of special lessons given and conned for the occasion, but the scholars were questioned promiscuously, by the teacher, in the ground they had passed over during the term. Two of the largest boys were an honor to the school, did themselves, the school and teacher, great credit, and if they continue to 'go ahead' as they requested in the examination, they will make ornaments in society."

East School, Winter Term:—

The teacher "had given very general satisfaction; the order and attention was very good. The school had not that lively and energetic aspect that is desirable, did not enunciate distinctly; there was a want of boldness in speaking; many answers, though probably correct, were not distinctly heard by the committee. The teacher, though a very estimable man, is not quite so ready in communication with his scholars as is desirable for an apt and successful teacher."

South School, Summer Term:—

"Sept. 23.—Visited South School for the last time. 38 scholars. From the previous visits which we had made to this school, we anticipated a good deal of pleasure, and we were not disappointed. On entering the room, at this visit, the air of the whole school breathed forth the evidence of obedience, industry and reciprocal love between the teacher and scholars. A larger number were present than we had seen before, which was of itself evidence that they were not

afraid of the committee, but were willing to exhibit the results of their labors. There was a better understanding of studies which they had passed over than we are accustomed to see in such young children. They had not been allowed to pass over a lesson till they had mastered it, sometimes they had spent a week on the same lesson. It is difficult to particularize where all the branches are learnt so well. It is not usual to see writing books kept so free from blots and marks, and so much effort to follow the copy, as was exhibited by their manuscripts. In such a school, where all was so well, it is unpleasant to mark any defects, and we only say that they would have appeared better still, if they had raised their voices; we could not distinctly hear all the answers to questions."

"The committee have been instrumental, during the past year, of introducing into the Centre, North and East Districts, the School Library, published under the sanction of the Board of Education. These books have furnished a very profitable source of instruction and entertainment, to both parents and children. Although these libraries were furnished by private subscription, yet they are open to the whole district, and have given very general satisfaction, and we cannot but hope that the South district, which is the only one unprovided, will yet be induced to follow the example, by furnishing themselves with this library, or some other. Books adapted to the understanding of the young furnish profitable subjects for conversation and reflection, afford pure and chaste language for the expression of their thoughts, and would serve to elevate their minds above the disorganizing and petty strife of seeing who should rule in school, the master or scholars. The mind of man and child is so constituted, is of such a nature, that it is constantly drinking in and appropriating to its use, either for good or evil, whatever comes within its reach. Surround it with good principles, nourish it with wholesome, with moral and scientific food, and it will exhibit the products of such nourishment. But feed it with low and debasing thoughts, schemes and plans, and the legitimate fruit of such food will certainly show itself in the conduct and character of the future life."

Report of 1852-3:—

"We have seen a disposition among some of the scholars to pursue those branches of science, which are far beyond their capacity, and not the most profitable for future usefulness in their business lives. Ornamental branches are sometimes pursued before the more substantial and useful are thoroughly understood. Without a thorough knowledge of a subject we cannot practice upon and use it with safety, either to ourselves or those with whom we have intercourse. The foundation of a building should be deeply and securely laid before we attempt to raise thereon a superstructure, and especially before we undertake the ornamental parts of the structure. We should learn to read, write and cipher, before we undertake to declaim, paint or make astronomical calculations."

Reading is of the first importance; indeed, we have very few good readers among us; readers who do not begin to be excused when called upon to read before strangers. Reading and spelling should be attended to every day, from the time the scholar enters school, till he leaves, until he bring his manner and modulation of voice to be so much like extemporaneous speaking, or talking, that a person in the next room, or out of sight, would not know but that he was talking.

Servile imitation of others, however excellent, should be carefully avoided, by the young learner. The copy will never be so good as the original; it will usually appear strained and unnatural, and of course be discovered.

Reading or speaking, pruned of all eccentricities by observance of such general rules as will be found in most of the school books, should be after one's own manner; he should personate himself instead of any other person, however eminent. When reading is brought to this perfection it will be listened to, and being better understood, will make a deeper impression. Why do we remember everything that is related to us, and forget so much that is read to us? It may be not owing to the natural manner of the relator, and the constrained manner of the reader, which diverts our attention, or at least fails to fix it?"

"The subject of irregular attendance has been so often presented to your notice, that you may think it a matter of supererogation to bring the subject up again at this time;

but we think it of such magnitude that we venture to bring it before you once more. It appears by the returns, that of those scholars whose names are on the register, but about three-fifths, or two-thirds, is the average attendance. There are some other children in the town who do not attend at all, and whose names are not registered at all, so that not far from one-half the whole school privilege is lost entirely. If we estimate the value of school-privilege at one dollar, or one-half, or even one-quarter, per day, for a child, the whole loss in the Commonwealth would amount to an immense sum. And who of us would part, if we could, with what we could learn in one day's diligent study? Although we should, any of us, be unwilling to part with any portion of our knowledge, yet I believe those who are ignorant actually set a higher value upon learning, than those who are learned. We heard one gentleman, in his after life, and who had been limited in the opportunities for learning, in his younger life, and who had acquired a sufficiency of this world's goods, make the remark that he should be very glad to refund one thousand dollars for one dollar, which should have been laid out upon his education in his youth. This puts the question in a very strong light, but no more so than is just and proper; learning is invaluable, it cannot be measured by dollars and cents."

Report of 1853-4:—

"Scholars learn a great deal from one another, perhaps in the whole as much as from the teacher; we mean in the less difficult portions of their studies. The more familiar intercourse which scholars hold with one another, and the consequent attrition of mind, elicits thought, and serves to bring into activity the scholar's own resources, and is therefore of more real and permanent benefit. One idea which a scholar gets from his own resources, or works out, with his intercourse with another, is worth a dozen, which are imperfectly understood, that he gets from a teacher. Knowledge which is absorbed, or drawn into the mind by the inherent power within, is more valuable, than that which is forced in by the aid of foreign assistance. A pupil may obtain knowledge in this way, but then it is uphill work. To be sure, he may sometimes meet with obstacles which may require the aid of

a teacher to remove; these obstacles will grow less and less as he progresses, and as he gains confidence and learns to depend more and more upon himself. The most practically useful men are those who are self-taught; because what they know there is no mistake about, and they can give us reason for it, the why and the wherefore. All new discoveries are of course from this kind of knowledge, although it may be based upon previous knowledge obtained from the schools.

It will be likewise noticed, that in several of the examinations, the school houses were dressed with evergreens. This is always pleasant to witness. When such attentions are paid to the occasions of visiting the schools, and when we see the friends of the scholars present, showing their interest too, when we see that the school house has not been abused, we feel that there is good evidence that the time of the scholars has been given to something of value, that study has been an object with them, that they have occupied themselves with things which will be profitable to them in after life. On the contrary, when we find the building abused, blinds and glass broken, fences broken down, wantonly; we cannot but have melancholy forebodings; we tremble for the future prospects, for some at least, of the members of that school. School houses ought to be held to be the most sacred places next to the church. They are our foster mothers, and are referred to by all our public speakers, with the deepest interest. Let feelings of respect and reverence for these our Alma Maters, then be inculcated by parents and teachers. Let the grounds about them be ornamented with shade trees and shrubbery, rose bushes and flowers; let each family or child plant a tree or bush, and cultivate it. Let the nakedness of the house and grounds be clothed with ornaments which shall increase the attractions of the place. If the borders of the grounds only were lined with forest trees, it would add much to the beauty of the spot, and take from it that aspect of desolation, which most of them now present. Would not the scholar, while he was engaged in such a laudable employment, be at the same time cultivating the more kindly and refined feelings of his nature? Would he be so likely even to become a ruffian, and do vio-

lence to the rules of social and refined life? Would not the stranger and traveller, as he passed, be moved with emotions of pleasure? Would not the scholar himself feel a little proud, when abroad, to be interrogated, whether he belonged to such a school? All our higher schools, academies, and seminaries of learning, as well as all public places, have not failed to make the ornamenting of their grounds a primary object."

Report 1854-5:—

"We would that you were either cold or hot; that you would either praise or censure our reports; that you would read and make your comments. We have no doubt but that the teachers have interest enough to look at them, but whether the parents do, or not, we do not know, for we hear little said of them. We have been making reports year after year, concerning the state and condition of the mental and moral developments of those young immortals, for whom you profess to have great anxiety, and which you no doubt really have, and love too, with all the ardor, which a father's or mother's nature is susceptible, and yet, hardly take the pains to peruse a short account of a year's teaching, whether it be for weal or for woe; although some improvement has been manifested the past year, by increased attendance on examinations. We know there is somewhat a sameness in such reports, quite as much in the external appearance, however, as anything within. But we have in this report, as in all others, endeavored to tell the truth, showing neither favor nor affection. We believe this report is not all honey-sweetened, nor vinegar-acidulated. If we have not said so much by way of praise in some parts of the report, it is not because we should not have been happy to have lauded every effort for instruction, however feeble; and we think we are fully authorized to bestow the modicum of praise, not without discrimination, which will be found in the following report, which is respectfully submitted."

"In the several first visits to the schools, we endeavored to impress upon the teacher and pupils, the vital importance of understanding the studies which they were pursuing. That no definition of a word should be taken, which was not reduced down to the perfect comprehension of the pupil.

A good deal of discouragement is frequently produced by the pupil's being obliged to feel his way in the dark through a branch of study, which would be much more readily comprehended, if only the meaning of the words were fully explained and understood."

"We would not be understood to say, that where there is a particular bias or love of any one course, or branch of science, we would not have it encouraged and pursued. Because, we believe, that especially where there is a bent for any one branch, it will be more sure to be learned, and be learned the more perfectly, and in a manner which will be more profitable to the individual and to the community."

We are not of that number that believe that the *disorder of the mind* is the principal advantage of schools. There are a great proportion of the community who get no education or knowledge than such as is obtained in common schools, and discipline alone would hardly satisfy the wants and desires of the public. After the fundamental branches, or together with those branches, if the teacher can catch the bent and leaning of the scholar's mind, the leaning as has been said, should be followed. Water should best run in its natural channel."

Report of 1858-9:—

"The common civilities, the little amenities, of life, should be more attended to by parents and teacher. Parents should require of their children on leaving home in the morning for school some expression respectful of the fact, and a child should be required, on entering the school room, to give some token to the teacher of his entrance; for children want to know how to leave or enter a room, as well as how to act or what to say when they get in. And not so much depend upon those little things as one might suppose; first impressions are the deepest and most lasting; it is therefore quite important we should make and leave a favorable impression upon those strangers whose acquaintance we are making. They are likewise the best passport into society and through life, and for our own benefit at least we had better pass for a little *more* than a good deal *less* than we are worth."

The want of graceful manners not unfrequently keeps

the background those who have talents and whose real merits are a loss to the public as well as themselves. Good manners are never lost."

Dr. Merriam loved country life and took a deep interest in the cultivation of the soil. One of the principal reasons for returning to his native town from Marblehead, was to enjoy country life and gratify his taste for agricultural pursuits. He joined the Essex Agricultural Society in 1821, and continued his connection with the society to the close of his life. Part of the time he was a trustee. His interest in the society never ceased while he lived. He took a special interest in the culture of fruit, and grew many choice varieties upon his farm. In making his professional rounds, in his gig or on horseback, he greatly enjoyed the rural scenery, the cultivated fields, the growing crops, and seeing the rewards of the thrifty husbandman in the harvest.

He favored agricultural instruction in the common schools.

In the school report of Apr., 1862, he writes,—“Agriculture is truly a branch about which every one should know something; for every merchant, mechanic, or professional man, sometime in his life, is called to cultivate the farm or the garden. As this is a branch of business upon which all others depend and upon which we must all fall back, it is quite important we should know something about it.”

The cause of Temperance received his early and earnest attention and support. He early became convinced of the injurious effects of alcohol as a beverage, upon the human system. It was a common saying with him that every glass of liquor a man drank, shortened his life some seconds. In public meetings, on social occasions, and in private conversation he gave his influence and ready advocacy of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks. He made very little use of it as a medicine in his practice. In his views and practice, in regard to the medicinal use of alcohol, he was in advance of his contemporaries.

One station that Dr. Merriam was called upon to occupy, remains to be mentioned—that of a magistrate. The friends of law and order were not obliged to go out of town in Judge Merriam's day to get justice administered. That object could be realized within our own precincts.

Back in the 50's, the condition of society was such as to call for the organization of a vigilance committee. The community was afflicted to an unusual degree with the evils attending the excessive use of intoxicating drink; in the language of the time, drunkenness, idleness, misspending of time, not providing for the support of the family, and disturbing the peace.

The prominent citizens of the village were largely interested in efforts to suppress the extensive dissipation, and to improve the morals of the town. It is improbable that Dr. Merriam took a partisan view of the situation, but he was deeply interested, especially in the reform of the victims of intoxicating drink, and brought his influence to bear upon the side of total abstinence, as has been before noticed.

Charges of drunkenness, and its attendant evils of idleness, not providing, disturbing the peace, vagrancy, and the like, were most frequently brought before him—but accusations of theft, obtaining money under false pretences, and breaking and entering, he was likewise called upon to consider. Of course the higher crimes that were beyond the jurisdiction of his court were sent up to the Court of Common Pleas.

It would appear that the crime of stealing, then as now, was not always looked upon as very heinous. A case where the prisoner was accused of stealing two turkeys, of the value of two dollars, the sentence imposed was a fine of one dollar, and costs of prosecution.

In another more aggravated case of stealing, the sentence was the House of Correction for three months.

For drunkenness and for being a common drunkard, not providing, *et cetera*, some cases got three months in the House of Correction, while others were let off with a much lighter sentence.

In a case where the charge was being drunk and intoxicated by the voluntary and excessive use of intoxicating liquors; that the accused was a common drunkard and on divers days and times within six months, was drunk and intoxicated; that he neglected his calling, misspent what he earned, and did not provide for his family; he was convicted and sentenced to the House of Correction for three months.

It is further recorded in the case that the "mittimus was

suspended on the respondent signing the abstinence pledge and paying a part of the costs of prosecution."

In another case where the charge was excessive drinking, idleness, misspending time, not providing, and so on, the accused promised better conduct, signed the temperance pledge and paid the costs, and was discharged and proceedings quashed.

Another case of drunkenness, idleness, disturbing the peace, etc., was *nol pros.* by the accused paying the costs and signing the pledge.

Another, for a simple drunk, *nol pros.* by paying part of the costs and signing the pledge.

A case where the accused pleaded *guilty*; penalty,—costs and pledge.

Another class of cases noted in the "Court Record," was where the accused was adjudged *not guilty* and discharged.

A case where a warrant was for an arrest for drunkenness, the constable made return that the respondent was not to be found in his precinct.

A writ for the same individual issued three months afterward, was returned with the indorsement that the respondent was *non est inventus*.

As the work of the vigilance committee was carried on in secret, and its members in a measure if not absolutely pledged to secrecy, it would seem that their proceedings occasionally leaked out in some way and came to the knowledge of the suspect, giving him a chance to escape.

The entries in Dr. Merriam's "Court Record," show that he exercised judgment, discrimination, and common sense, as well as regarded the requirements of law, in his dealings as a magistrate.

While some of his decisions are to be commended by the most stubborn advocates of the forms of law, it is apparent that he was lenient in his treatment of many delinquents, who were brought before him. If the victim of the abuse of alcohol was not treated as harshly as might have been expected, it would not be unjust in the magistrate, but creditable for him, to take into consideration the frailties of human nature, when subjected to the temptation of the intoxicating cup; the deprivation by his impoverished family of

the little that he might furnish towards their support; the culpability of those who placed temptations in his path, more guilty than the culprit himself, and the blame lying upon the community for not removing the cause of his dissipation out of the way.

The inconsistence and incongruity of condemning a man for being influenced by causes beyond his control, and for yielding to temptations thrust in his pathway, could not but appeal to the magistrate's common sense and sense of justice.

It must be admitted that Dr. Merriam administered justice honestly, in accordance with law, and with due regard to the extenuating circumstances of the cause on trial.

If he was not a severe judge, the community had the satisfaction of feeling that no innocent person was called to suffer unjustly.

Dr. Merriam was too far advanced in life to take an active part in the war of the great Rebellion. But, as I remember, in a public assembly called to consider the subject of enlistments, he offered to attend gratuitously, and did so do, the families of those who were about to enlist.

He sent his son into the field to help fight the battles of his country.

For many years he was the most prominent citizen of the place. At public meetings held to discuss important questions, he was called upon to preside, as well as to preside on occasions in other towns, as County Temperance Conventions. It was the custom to turn to him to head petitions and take the lead in movements looking to the benefit of his fellow-townsmen.

Dr. Merriam made no pretensions to the role of a public speaker, but was ready to express his views and opinions in plain language. I do not know that he ever applied himself to deliver a lecture, to write an essay, or to make a set speech. But on a festive occasion, where the ladies bore a leading part, the observance of the Fourth of July, and the celebration of the completion of the vestry of the Congregational Church, Dr. Merriam left minutes of extended remarks to be made on that occasion, on "The happy influence which woman exerts on society." The tone of the speech is highly eulogistic of the sex.

A copy of the paper follows:—

"In occupying the few minutes allotted to us on this festive occasion I design to offer a few remarks on the happy influence which woman exerts on society.

It has been our very agreeable province through life to be much in her society. We have seen her in very many different phases and occasions, and have seldom found her failing to support her character for sympathy, aid, and charity, which the world has always granted her, and which the various emergencies have called forth. Her heart and hand are always open to the demands and necessities of human wants and human sufferings. Her hand is seen in every good word and work. And her power and influence is almost unlimited; she can and does accomplish great and wonderful things.

We need not go beyond our own country or our own times for examples of her energies, and the support she has given to important enterprises.

The heroes and patriots of the revolution are sung on every 4th of July, but did not the heroines and women of the times bear a full share of the burdens and sufferings, which were endured, most cheerfully and hopefully, during those most anxious and distressing days? Did they not part with their husbands, fathers, brothers, and friends, to do battle in the strife for independence and liberty? and did they not sometimes do it themselves? Who will undertake to say how great a part they had in the matter, or whether our Independence would have been achieved at all, without their encouragement and patience, so important for the emergency? and what does not every good cause owe to woman?

What has she not done for the Temperance cause, and what for the cause of religion in all ages and at all times? On these subjects you, Mr. President, need no illustration.

But to bring the subject still nearer home, the ladies of our own town have done themselves immortal honor, and the town immortal credit by the various enterprises which they have undertaken and accomplished in the present passing times. Whenever and wherever we go abroad, we hear inquiries after the 'Topsfield Ladies Reading Society.'

Other ladies wish to take pattern for forming similar societies, or remodeling old ones, and particular inquiries made after the reading department, the selection of books and the mode of using them, how supported and maintained etc., etc., giving us evidence of the impression they made abroad, approving and applauding their taste and style.

In the present movement, having a double object in view, viz., the observance of our National birthday and the erection of a Social Hall or Vestry for the convenience and accommodation of the place, for all ordinary occasions of meeting together, they are making yet another demonstration of their unfailing resources. We probably should have had a Vestry for the present, had not the Ladies given the work a propelling impulse, by devoting a very liberal portion of their collections to this end.

This too, without lessening their appropriations for books, of which they have some 200 volumes, and for various charitable purposes. And their charities are not few, if we judge from the frequent inquiries made of us for objects needing aid. Their footsteps are not always seen by the public, when on errands of mercy, they do not sound the trumpet before them, or publish to the world their going out or coming in, yet grateful hearts will sometimes remember their doings. Can it be otherwise than that such examples should have a happy influence on society and the next generation?

Ought we not, then, to encourage the laudable undertakings of our friends, by responding to their calls, with the assistance which it is in our power to render, and to second their movements in every other operation got up for such worthy objects?

And who grudges the small contribution levied upon his pocket, when so many of his senses are gratified and entertained? Not the appetite alone is glutted with sweets, the eye, the ear, the intellect, and the whole soul are regaled with pleasant and happy impressions, which will soon, we trust, be obliterated from the record which memory keeps, not till benevolence and virtue cease to charm the suffering humanity shall have no need of female sympathy, or till time with us shall be no more.

Then give to the ladies of Topsfield their just due, Virtue, Benevolence, and Intelligence."

He was eminently social in his nature. No one more than he enjoyed, even in his later years, social gatherings, and the society of young people, for whose benefit so much of his life had been devoted. They received a cordial welcome to his home, where they met on many happy occasions.

A short poem has been preserved among his papers, that illustrates the social side of his character. It was probably written and sent by a lady admirer.

From his agreeable companionship, his robust and stately form, and engaging manners, we can easily see that he was a favorite in society.

When we consider that he did not marry until he was 52 years old, and was wont to say that he "would if he could," some allusions and expressions in the facetious production, will be readily understood and appreciated.

TO DR. MERRIAM.

What, Doct., still *solus*? no wife in the chase?

Still afraid of that soul chilling "No"?

Poor faint-hearted soul! how I pity your case,

More timid the older you grow.

Here are blue eyes, and black eyes, the fair and brunette.

The grave, the coquette and the prude,  
From dignified Lydia to learned Miss Bet.

"I know it, I would if I could."

See Lucia, sweet model of feminine grace,

How can you behold her unmoved?

A temper more sweet, or a lovelier face

Might be worshiped, but could not be loved.

Will sighing and wishing ere bring to your arms

A damsel more charming and good?

Not a single endeavor for so many charms?

"Don't tease me, I would if I could."

On Lucy Ann's eye could an anchorite gaze  
Nor kindle amain at the view?  
With calmness to gaze on so witching a face,  
Was reserved for one senseless as you.

The rose and the lily blend on Margaret's cheek  
Her lips how with nectar imbued!  
You monster of dullness, Oh! why don't you speak  
"Why hang ye! I would if I could."

Have Lydia's attractions no longer a charm?  
Or what can have rendered them less?  
Can sweetness so touching and goodness so warm  
Excite not a wish to possess?

Your sense of her merit you have after avowed,  
I protest you deserve a rattan,  
Go whine like a schoolboy, "I would if I could,"  
"In six months I will if I can."

\* \* \* \* \*

Sometime before commencement in 1858, the Hon. C. Grennell of Greenfield, his classmate before mentioned, him asking what he thought of a class reunion on the anniversary of their graduation. The proposition was ably considered. It was arranged that Dr. Merriam should go to Hanover by way of Greenfield, both going on from thence to New Haven, meeting at the former place in company with each other. He did so well in his address that he received a cordial and hospitable reception from his old classmate. The facilities for travel were not so extensive as to allow of a large number of students attending, so that it could not be expected that there would be a large representation of the surviving members of the class at the meeting. The occasion brought together only three to celebrate their semi-centennial, Dr. Merriam, Mr. Grennell and Mr. Spaulding of Vermont.

The friendly and hospitable entertainment at Greenfield was a great success. The three friends met again at the meeting of the trio on the scenes of their college days, where they called up the events of their student days.

talked over the experiences of the half century, the commencement dinner where the graduates gathered for their annual festival, and where Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes and the Hon. John P. Hale were present as invited guests and made felicitous speeches, made an occasion of much enjoyment and a delightful episode of his declining years.

The professional and friendly relations of the writer with Dr. Merriam during his last seven years, gave opportunity to learn much of him in the different relations of life; to witness the high moral tone of his discourse, his genial and hospitable nature, his interest for the well-being of the community, and the prosperity of the town.

Dr. Merriam was a regular attendant upon the Sunday services of the Congregational Church, and held to the essential doctrines there taught. He was not a member of the church organization. His religion was exhibited in his daily life, and in believing and following the plain teachings of the New Testament.

Concerning his religious views I quote from a letter written after his decease by Mr. Grennell:—"I believe he expressed a sentiment familiar to his heart, in some of the last moments of his life, that 'he could trust in Christ as the Redeemer of his soul.' His letters to me expressed sentiments in accord with the above."

The evening of his days was passed in the enjoyment of home and village life, interesting himself in the state of the country then in the throes of rebellion, exercising the rights and privileges of citizenship, attending public worship, enjoying the society of friends, having the respect of the community, friendly to all, happy in his domestic relations, possessed of a competence, he came to the period when the healing art failed to prolong life, or prevent the inroads of disease, and passed away, with angina pectoris, Nov. 13th, 1864, at the age of 78 years and 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  months, bringing to a close a life well spent.

## THE MEETING HOUSE ON THE COMMON.

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Town votes relating to the first Meeting House located on "the common."

Jan. 14, 1700-1. New meeting house placed on the plain by Mr. Capens; agreed to build new meeting house 2 & forty foot wide & 4 & forty foot long.

Jan. 20, 1701-2. It was agreed upon yt ye pulpit shall be placed on ye north side of ye new Meeting house, & ye Town did agree yt ye seats shall be placed after ye manner as they be placed in Rowley meeting house, & ye five seats before ye Pulpit is to be sixteen foot long & Mr. Capens Pue is to be placed next the Pulpit stairs.

June 8, 1702. Agreed that ye new meeting house should be set upon ye hill that is to be leveled for that end which is on the plain by Mr. Capens.

July 31, 1702. The four front seats shall be Made about twelve foot long.

Oct. 5, 1703. Agreed that the new meeting house should be seated after the manner as Ipswich new meeting house, leaving no room for Puese except Mrs. Capens Pue.

Granted liberty to people of the Town to set Stables for their horses on the back side of ye new meeting house, provided they set them as near the Swamp as they can.

Nov. 5, 1703. Chose Dea. Saml. Howlet, Leiut. Thomas Baker, Leiut. Tobijah Perkins, Sargt. Daniel Redington & Corpl. Joseph Towne, a Committee to seat the people.

Mr. Tillton should take down the pulpit.

The Town agreed to Adjourn the meeting down to the new meeting house. The Town agreed to pass acts in the new meeting house.

The Town agreed that the vacant room on both sides of

